

GLAMORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL



WELFARE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**Annual Report of the Director
of Welfare Services
to the Welfare Services Committee
for the Year ending 31st March, 1960**

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County Alderman The Rev. W. DEGWEL THOMAS,
Chairman of the Welfare Services Committee

J. HOWARD BARGH, D.P.A., F.I.S.W., Barrister-at-Law,
Director of Welfare Services

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Western Mail and Echo, Ltd., Cardiff
(Official opening of “ Bro Dawel ”)

FOREWORD

I have pleasure in submitting to the Welfare Services Committee a Report on your work and that of the Department in the year ended 31st March, 1960.

In my Report last year I commented on the social legislation of 1948, of which the National Assistance Act was part, as laying a foundation on which social services could be developed and extended collaterally with widened social conscience and the increasing economic resources of the country. This is the opportunity and the challenge : to what extent will this development be demanded by the public and met by the legislators and instruments of social policy ! Professor David Marsh of Nottingham University in a lecture this year in his native County of Glamorgan, propounded his view that there would be no change in the development of the Welfare State for the next 50 years. It would, he feared, continue to develop piecemeal as hitherto. Further, the present trend towards even greater fragmentation of services — e.g. the delegation of Welfare Services from County Councils to larger Urban District Councils he considered to be distinctly retrogressive !

Investigation into the effectiveness of social machinery has been too narrow, according to the learned Professor, who advocated research into the Welfare State as a whole. One feels inclined to support this view in the knowledge that twelve years after the National Assistance Act came into operation Local Authorities may, or may not, as they please, provide welfare services for the handicapped. Should they do so they must operate under an approved Scheme containing provisions, some of which are mandatory, others optional. The former are non-specific, and not likely to confer much benefit on the handicapped, the more effective services remaining at the discretion of the Authority. The extent to which this discretion is exercised is demonstrated in recent statistics on Welfare Expenditure. Some Authorities are spending as much as £57 (per thousand population) on this work, while others as little as 2/-d. Glamorgan expenditure of £26, is relatively high, particularly in the context of County Council expenditure. Some Authorities have grasped the opportunity eagerly and are developing really beneficial services, while others have merely erected a face-saving facade. To be of real service to the community, these services should surely be available to all handicapped persons irrespective of boundaries and financial policies of Local Authorities.

Significant this year has been the opening of “ Bro Dawel,” the first purpose-designed Home to be erected by the County Council. Progress in the provision of residential accommodation has, since 1948, been continuously hampered by Government restrictions occasioned usually by economic factors. Today Glamorgan’s provision of beds providing residential accommodation is at 1.23 per 1,000 population — among the lowest in the country. It is readily apparent that if your Committee is to provide, as it has undertaken to do in its Welfare Scheme, 2,000 beds by 1971, considerable resources must certainly be applied to this aspect of welfare provision.

The passing of the Mental Health Act this year has added a further cornerstone in the fabric of the Nation’s social welfare structure and makes a notable advance in the type and quality of care and treatment to be afforded the mentally sick and infirm. The Act comes into operation in stages, but meanwhile the Minister has advised Local Authorities that

the main services can be provided under existing powers. Local Authorities are charged by the Act with the responsibility of providing residential accommodation for the mentally infirm, a responsibility closely related to that flowing from the National Assistance Act in respect of the Aged. The Act enables Local Authorities to provide residential accommodation for mentally disordered persons under the provisions of the National Assistance Act, and thus use could be made of existing skills, administration, and, if appropriate, existing Homes for this purpose. It was initially feared that the new Act would promote a large scale exodus of elderly mental patients from mental hospitals to Local Authority Homes, but the Minister, in a Memorandum to Hospital Management Committees, indicated that such a state of affairs was not in contemplation. He saw, rather, a reduction of patients going into hospital than a transference of patients to Old Person's Homes. The Act also amends the National Assistance Act in relation to the provision of services for the Handicapped. Mentally disordered persons as well as the physically handicapped are now eligible to benefit from domiciliary services such as those provided by welfare workers, the promotion of social and pastime activities, sheltered workshop and home working facilities.

Some four years ago a Committee, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Eileen Younghusband, was appointed by the Government to enquire into the recruitment and training of social workers in Local Authorities' Health and Welfare Services. During the year the Committee submitted its Report — a document of monumental proportions. A major finding of the Committee was that welfare staffs were currently over-worked, under-paid, and ill-equipped for their function. The Committee condemned undue specialisation in social work and recommended the training of social workers of different categories to meet the varying degrees of complexity of problem met in the welfare setting. The Report recommends a new type of worker : a "welfare assistant," who would be "in-trained" by the Authority to deal with relatively routine work such as simple visitation. More complex social work should be undertaken by officers having either a University social science training or those trained under a scheme recommended by the Committee. The latter would be a two-years' course of training, normally undertaken at Colleges of Further Education culminating in the award of a National Certificate in Social Work. The Report recommends that within the next five years, 800 professionally trained workers and at least 1,000 welfare assistants should be recruited and trained. Local Authorities are recommended to support these proposals — which are currently being examined by the Government — by granting leave of absence and financial assistance.

Once again, in presenting this Report to the Committee, I would like to pay tribute to the excellent work of the Staff of the Department in all its spheres of activity in the past year. I also wish to thank fellow Chief Officers, who have on all occasions given me and my department co-operation and assistance in full measure. To the Chairman and Members of the Welfare Services Committee I express sincere thanks and appreciation of the support and guidance always given to members of the department and myself.

J. H. BARGH,
Director of Welfare Services.

9th July, 1960.

PART I

“ HOW WE TREAT our old people is a crucial test of our national quality. A nation that lacks gratitude to those who have honestly worked for her in the past, while they had the strength to do so, does not deserve a future, for she has lost her sense of justice and her instinct of mercy.”

DAVID LLOYD GEORGE

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION

It is now twelve years since the Poor Law was repealed by the National Assistance Act, 1948 — a measure which, in conjunction with other social legislation in the early post-war period, provides the basis for future welfare development. The provisions relating to residential accommodation are numerically meagre and, indeed, are succinctly expressed in a few lines by Section 21(1)(a) of the Act, viz :

“ It shall be the duty of every local authority to provide residential accommodation for persons who by reasons of age, infirmity, or any other circumstances are in urgent need of care and attention which is not otherwise available to them.”

When the Act came into operation on the 5th July, 1948, no-one could foresee with clarity the extent and form of a Local Authority's responsibilities or the difficulties which they would experience. Much depended on the demand for the new service which, in turn, involved removal of the stigma attaching to former Poor Law Institutions. What was clear was that County and County Borough Councils, even though the most energetic steps were taken to provide new small homes, would have to continue using the old buildings for some time to come. Residential accommodation under the new Act was to be a substitute for a normal home where all reasonable needs could be met ; it therefore became essential to ensure that the new service was one in which all adverse Poor Law influences were eradicated.

Section 21(2) of the Act provides that local authorities “ *shall have regard to the welfare of all persons for whom accommodation is provided, and in particular to the need for providing accommodation of different descriptions suited to different descriptions of such persons as are mentioned in the last foregoing subsection.*” Thereby the Authority was accordingly charged with the duty of providing appropriate residential accommodation for a wide range of elderly, infirm, disabled or subnormal people — but not sick persons requiring hospital treatment — who are unable to look after themselves in their own homes and cannot obtain from relatives, friends, or others the care and attention they require.

In preparing their Scheme under the National Assistance Act, the Glamorgan County Council estimated that accommodation would need to be provided ultimately for some 2,000 aged, infirm and handicapped

persons in the County area. As a nucleus, the Council had 689 beds disposed as follows :—

	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>
"Tegfan," Aberdare	210	—	210
"Danybryn," Pontardawe ..	75	35	110
"Glanymor," Penmaen	52	58	110
"Lulsley," Horton	10	10	20
"Eastcliffe," Penarth	23	—	23
"Eastbrook," Dinas Powis ..	—	20	20
"Bryneithin," Dinas Powis ..	—	26	26
Graig Hospital (Part III Accommodation), Pontypridd ..	54	116	170
TOTAL ..	424	265	689

At the outset, as well as modifying, improving and developing the existing accommodation and services provided, the Glamorgan County Council determined to take every practicable step to provide new residential homes. As the appropriate Committee, it has been your policy to aim at the establishment of small homes for approximately 30 to 35 residents by the acquisition and, where necessary, adaptation of suitable premises and by the erection of new purpose-built homes. Unfortunately many factors have militated against full implementation of your scheme: almost continuous capital and building restrictions since 1948 have, until recently, prevented effective alleviation of overcrowding and inadequate facilities at the older establishments where only minor improvements have been possible. Endemic to Glamorgan was a severe shortage of large residential properties suitable for conversion, particularly in the valley townships, whilst mining subsidence and the topography of the County have caused considerable difficulty in obtaining sites for future development.

Minor improvements over the years to relieve overcrowding, together with other factors, have effected a total reduction of 75 beds — mainly in joint-user accommodation at Graig Hospital Pontypridd — whilst more beds were lost during the year by the closure of "Lulsley," Horton on economic grounds. Large scale adaptations involving the temporary closure of "Eastcliffe," Penarth, and "Bryneithin," Dinas Powis, which were nearing completion at the end of the year under review, have unfortunately also resulted in a temporary loss of 39 beds.

In the face of prevailing difficulties and a general shortage of beds — common to most Authorities — your policy of eradicating undesirable characteristics of old institutional accommodation has, despite losing invaluable beds in the process, unquestionably raised the general standard of residential accommodation in the County. Coincident with upgrading measures, your Committee has, through its Hostels Sites Sub-Committee, taken every opportunity of viewing properties which have come on the market from time to time, to gauge their suitability for conversion as Homes for the Aged. The great majority have proved totally unsuitable, but the following were deemed suitable and were acquired and adapted, often at considerable expense. The list includes, for purpose of measuring

progress in providing accommodation, "Bro Dawel," a 'purpose-built' home, which is referred to in greater detail on page 10 :—

	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>
"Danygraig," Porthcawl ..	21	12	33
"Moorlands," Porthcawl ..	10	16	26
"Bronleigh," Neath ..	—	16	16
"Caewern," Neath ..	15	11	26
"Craig-y-Parcau," Bridgend ..	19	20	39
"Gwalia," Barry ..	—	34	34
"Gardenhurst," Penarth ..	27	—	27
"The Court," St. Fagans ..	12	29	41
"Gellygron," Pontardawe ..	12	11	23
"The Hollies," Pontardulais ..	13	15	28
"Fairfield," Trealaw ..	18	15	33
"Bro Dawel," Caerphilly ..	18	17	35
	165	196	361

The conversion of a cottage in the grounds of "Craig-y-Parcau," Bridgend, originally intended for staff, was completed in July, 1959, providing additional accommodation for eight residents, thus increasing the accommodation there from 31 to 39 beds. With the opening of "Bro Dawel," Caerphilly, and the closure of "Lulsley," there has been a net increase to the Authority of 28 beds since the 1st April, 1959. Excluding "Bryneithin" and "Eastcliffe," where beds have temporarily been lost during adaptation works, residential accommodation was provided on the 31st March, 1960, for 916 aged and infirm persons (531 men and 385 women) in 16 County Homes. The distribution of this accommodation is shown in Table 1 on Page 26.

Capital Projects

The following capital works at existing Homes for the Aged were in progress or pending at the 31st March, 1960 :—

(a) "Danybryn," Pontardawe.

Last year I mentioned that loan sanction in the sum of £32,262 had been received for a major upgrading scheme at this former Poor Law institution of 107 beds. These works, which include a new central heating installation, improved lighting and sanitary conveniences, new sun verandahs and a passenger lift, were started during the year under review. Two blocks have been completed, their appearance being greatly enhanced by new thermo-plastic flooring, carefully selected decorative schemes, and the addition of a very attractive sun lounge. The remaining blocks will be dealt with in the ensuing year.

The erection of a detached house in the grounds, for use by the Warden and Matron will release much needed additional accommodation for residents, but in conformity with your policy to achieve standards similar to those existing in small-unit homes, it will become necessary to effect substantial reduction in the number of residents to be accommodated at this home.

(b) "*Bryneithin*," *Dinas Powis*

The erection of an extension to "*Bryneithin*" and other work, including a central heating system and improved lighting and sanitary amenities, commenced on the 9th March, 1959, and is now nearing completion. The effect of these adaptations, undertaken by Messrs. Frank Batty & Smith Ltd., Cardiff, at a contract price of £43,014, will be to supplement amenities generally and increase the accommodation from 21 to 36 beds.

(c) "*Eastcliffe*," *Penarth*

In May, 1959, Messrs. J. E. Evans (Cardiff) Limited, commenced adaptations to this home at a contract price of £14,015. The project includes the installation of a gas-operated central heating system, installation of passenger lift and remodelling of the electrical system. Additional sanitary facilities and other works, including complete redecoration of premises, will enable accommodation to be increased from 18 to 22 beds. The work was nearing completion stage at the end of the financial year.

(d) "*Glanymor*," *Penmaen*

During the year, loan sanction in the sum of £10,000 was received from the Welsh Board of Health and plans drawn up for comprehensive upgrading works at "*Glanymor*." The scheme contemplates the provision of additional sun lounges overlooking the sea, a passenger lift, and the installation of a new central heating system. A feature of the adaptations will be the division of large dormitories into homely cubicles, each having attractive built-in furniture. It is hoped that through this medium standards of accommodation comparable to those applying in small-unit homes will be attained. To do this sacrifices other than financial must be made, and this year you have agreed to reduce the beddage of this Home from 106 to 80 beds.

Future Programme

Under your long-term development plan for the provision of 2,000 beds by 1971, you have approved in principle the siting of additional homes as follows :—

<i>Area</i>	<i>Present Provision</i>		<i>Suggested Siting of Additional Homes :</i>	
	<i>Homes</i>	<i>Beds</i>	<i>Homes</i>	<i>Beds</i>
Caerphilly	1	35	4	137
Aberdare	1	204	1	35
South-East Glamorgan ..	*5	141	5	196
Pontypridd	1	138	2	55
Rhondda	1	33	7	237
Bridgend	3	98	5	171
Neath	2	42	9	309
West Glamorgan	4	264	—	—
	—	—	—	—
	18	955	33	1,140
	—	—	—	—

* Includes "*Bryneithin*" (21 beds) and "*Eastcliffe*" (18 beds) temporarily closed for adaptations and extension.

It is natural that the majority of applicants for residential accommodation should express preference to enter a Home in their own locality near friends and relatives, but until all areas are adequately endowed with homes, it is not always possible to meet their wishes. At present, the acute shortage of beds in certain areas necessitates admission in instances of urgency to a Home where there exists suitable accommodation, even though the Home is rather remote from the person's normal environment. With these factors in mind you decided some time ago to devise a five-years' programme under which homes for the Aged would be provided in the following areas, viz :—

Port Talbot (Sandfields site).
Maesteg (Cemetery Road site).
Rhondda Borough.
Gelligaer Urban District.
Aberdare Urban District.
Ogmore and Garw Urban District.
Neath Welfare area (two sites).
Bridgend Urban District.
Cowbridge area.

Of these proposed developments, you have decided that the Sandfields and Maesteg projects should have first priority and they are inter-alia included for the financial year 1960/61, in the immediate two years' programme, viz :—

- 1960/61 : Proposed 35-bedded home at Sandfields, Port Talbot.
Proposed 35-bedded home at Maesteg.
A second 60-bedded home in the Pontypridd area.
Purchase and adaptation of "Glanffrwd," Neath.
- 1961/62 : 35-bedded home at Aberdare.
35-bedded home at Bettws or Bryncethin.

The acute shortage of beds in the Neath area has been minimised by using accommodation in the adjacent West Glamorgan area — the best endowed of all County areas. The Rhondda area undoubtedly creates the greatest problem in relation to development of homes, due to its geographic isolation from the neighbouring valleys, subsidence and peculiar topographical features. "Fairfield," Trealaw, is the only home acquired in this area and, should further sites not become available, you have resolved to explore the possibility of providing homes in perimeter localities. Pontypridd area, the most accessible of the areas to Rhondda, also has its difficulties : the only residential accommodation being the joint-user accommodation at Graig Hospital, which, with 138 Part III beds, has as its catchment area virtually the whole of the Rhondda and Pontypridd areas. The Welsh Board of Health, Regional Hospital Board, and Glamorgan County Council have all condemned existing conditions at this establishment, and as a first step to alleviating the position, loan sanction in the sum of £79,104 has been obtained for the erection of a 60-bedded home at Glantaf, Pontypridd. It is anticipated that work will commence on this project early in the next financial year.

A second 60-bedded home in the Pontypridd area has also been sanctioned by the Welsh Board of Health and the two homes when completed should do much to improve the standard of residential accommodation and ultimately to increase the number of places in the area.

"Bro Dawel," Energlyn, Caerphilly

"Bro Dawel," completed during the year under review, is the first purpose-designed Home built by the Authority since the National Assistance Act came into operation on the 5th July, 1948. It is the first home to be established in the Caerphilly area and the eleventh Home for the Aged to be officially opened.

The official opening ceremony took place on the 4th November, 1959, under the chairmanship of County Alderman William Llewelyn, J.P., Chairman of the County Council and the Hostels Management Sub-Committee. Guests were welcomed by the Chairman of Caerphilly Urban District Council, Councillor W. J. James, J.P. As illustrated on page 33 the Home was formally opened by County Alderman the Reverend W. Degwel Thomas, Chairman of the Welfare Services Committee, who unveiled a commemorative plaque in the main entrance hall. The Home was then dedicated by the Reverend T. G. O. Thomas, Minister of the Bethel Welsh Congregational Church, Caerphilly.

Situated in peaceful surroundings and enjoying extensive views of Caerphilly, "Bro Dawel" provides accommodation for 35 residents of both sexes. The premises, comprising three blocks with connecting corridors, were so designed to minimise the risk of mining subsidence. Construction was by Messrs. W. T. Nicholls Ltd., Gloucester, at a contract price of £53,989, under the supervision of the County Architect, Mr. E. A. E. Evans, A.R.I.B.A.

The accommodation consists of 21 single bedrooms and seven double bedrooms for the residents. Bedrooms are fitted with wash-basins, built-in wardrobes and cupboards, and bed-head wall-lights. Push button call bells are installed in all bedrooms, bathrooms and W.C.s.

Each of the two floors has lavatory and bathroom facilities for both sexes, two of the bathrooms having sitz baths for the more infirm residents. Cork tiling, quiet and warm to the tread, has been provided throughout the building and all corridors are fitted with handrails. The home is centrally heated by radiators fed from a thermostatically controlled gas-fired boiler.

A double bedroom is reserved for visitors or for emergency accommodation of residents, and another room set aside for use as a sick room. There are three lounges — a main lounge, a smoke-room and a quiet room. Both television and radio amenities are available to residents.

The interior of the Home has been decorated in pleasing pastel shades. Furniture and furnishings which were carefully selected by a Special Sub-Committee of the Welfare Services Committee, were supplied by the County Supplies Department.

"Bro Dawel" is featured in photographs appearing on pages 34 to 36 of this Report.

Furnishings at Homes for the Aged

During the past two years an ad hoc Sub-Committee visited the Authority's Homes purchased and furnished since the 5th July, 1948. Their object was to inspect the fair wear and tear of furniture and materials and, in consultation with the Director of Welfare Services and County Supplies Officer, to determine standards of quality for guidance when furnishing new Homes for the Aged. The Sub-Committee's investigations have resulted in the adoption of standards for beds, dressing tables, bedside lockers, bedside chairs, lounge chairs and various other items.

In the light of experience gained and the obvious value of this research, you have now appointed a Furnishings Sub-Committee, comprising the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Welfare Services Committee and Hostels Management Sub-Committee, together with lady members of the latter Sub-Committee. The functions of the new Sub-Committee are to :—

- (a) Select from time to time the furnishings for new homes, and
- (b) Consider periodic reports of the Director of Welfare Services and County Supplies Officer on the furnishing of Homes, and make recommendations thereon.

Installation of Lifts

As a consequence of the shortage of residential accommodation in relation to demand, the Department must consider claims to priority when arranging admission of old persons to your Homes. Consequently the tendency in recent years has been for older and more infirm persons to be admitted and with the ageing of existing residents, this has had the effect of increasing demand for ground floor accommodation.

Apart from providing new buildings, the only practical method of meeting this problem is to remove the obstacle of stairs by the provision of lifts. A lift at "Tegfan" has been planned for some time and, in November last year, you decided to install lifts within the course of the next few years at the following establishments :—

- "Eastcliffe," Penarth. (now completed in upgrading programme).
- "Danybryn," Pontardawe. }
- "Moorlands," Porthcawl. } included in estimates for 1960/61.
- "Caewern," Neath.
- "The Court," St. Fagans.
- "The Hollies," Pontardulais.

As previously mentioned, the upgrading programme at "Glanymor" also includes the installation of a lift.

Amenities at Homes for the Aged

I have, in the preceding pages, described the County's Homes for the Aged insofar as buildings and furnishings are concerned, but bricks and sticks alone do not make a home. What makes the home? What do the old people do? Are they really happy in our homes?

In the first place, I cannot emphasise too strongly that all County Homes are intended to be homes in the true sense of the word. There are no irksome restrictions and residents are free to come and go at will,

to entertain friends, go on holiday and participate in the normal life of the community. Naturally, however, there must be a fundamental prohibition for, as in all civilized communities, the liberty of the subject must not extend to licence impinging on the liberty of his fellow beings. In effect, therefore, all that is asked of residents is that they should behave so as not to upset or offend fellow residents, to be punctual at mealtimes and inform Staff of intended absence, in effect unwritten rules in any well-run household.

If a resident wishes to spend most of his time at home — and, very often, only the best of weather will entice old people away from their easy chairs — he has everything at hand for his comfort and pleasure. All homes have television, radio, dominoes, cards, and other indoor games; newspapers and periodicals are supplied, supplemented by a library service provided either by the County or District Council. Unless residents prefer to supply their own, they are provided with all clothing and given sweets, tobacco or cigarettes according to taste.

Where necessary, nursing staff is employed and the three larger homes are regularly visited by part-time medical officers. This does not affect the individual right of each resident to register with a medical practitioner of his own choice or to participate in the benefits of the National Health Service. Your services supplement and enhance the statutory services by securing a hygienic environment and cater for the treatment of illnesses normally dealt with at home. As the Committee is aware, the Government propose instituting through interested Local Health Authorities, a chiropody service under the National Health Service Act. Your Committee may well take pride in having anticipated the value of such a service, which has been operated on a sessional basis in your Homes since 1953.

Charges for Residential Accommodation

Based on a formula agreed by the County Councils' Association which has regard to the actual cost of providing residential accommodation, the standard charge in your homes during the year was £6 10s. 4d. per week from 1st April, 1959, and £6 9s. 8d. per week from 1st October, 1959. Each resident is required by law to contribute to this cost according to his means but his needs are fully met whether or not he has sufficient resources to pay the standard charge. If he is unable to afford the standard charge — and only a very small percentage can — it is necessary for the Authority to assess what smaller sum he must pay in accordance with the National Assistance Act.

Legislation provides for residents having a pocket money allowance, which at present is 10/-d weekly. The Act specifies certain resources to be disregarded — either wholly or in part — in assessing the ability to pay, and under the National Assistance (Disregard of Assets) Order, 1959, capital assets not exceeding £100, previously £50, are disregarded. The following are also disregarded up to a total amount of 30/-d. per week (previously £1) :—

- (a) the first 15/-d. a week (previously 10/6d.) of any Sick Pay received from a Friendly Society or Trade Union.

- (b) the first 15/-d. a week (previously 10/6d.) of any Superannuation payment in respect of past employment.
- (c) Certain other payments including specified disablement pensions and benefits.

Under the new Order, the possession of capital assets exceeding £600 (formerly £400) creates automatic liability to pay the standard charge except that "War Savings" up to a maximum of £375 are totally disregarded.

Ministerial Regulations prescribe a "minimum charge" for residential accommodation of £2 per week and, where a person has no other source of income, the National Assistance Board makes a grant of £2 10s. 0d. per week to enable him to pay the "minimum charge" and retain 10/-d. weekly for pocket money.

At the end of the year under review 3% of residents in Glamorgan Homes were paying the full standard charge of £6 9s. 8d. per week, 81% were paying the minimum charge of £2 per week, and 16% paid at rates between the two extremes.

Gifts and Entertainments

Although provided with all reasonable needs and encouraged to participate in community activities, many residents — mainly the more infirm — lead by choice rather a sheltered life at your Homes. They are not, however, forgotten by a benevolent public. Neighbours, firms and various organisations have, in several instances, virtually "adopted" a Home in their particular locality. At the Christmas period your Committee and even the residents themselves have been rather embarrassed at the flood of gifts inundating some of the homes; they have been embarrassed not merely at the number of gifts but chiefly because of the genuine affection underlying these spontaneous gestures on the part of the public. These gifts undoubtedly spring from true charitable motives and a real feeling of friendship.

Illustrative of the thought and imagination behind many of the gifts last Christmas was the wonderful selection of individual presents given to the residents at "Gellygron," Pontardawe, by the Christmas Fund Committee of the Perry Chain Co., Ltd., Ystradgynlais. They included bedroom slippers, bedjackets, cardigans, pullovers, nylons, handbags, pinafores, caps, ties, fountain pens, cigarettes, cigarette lighters, tobacco, and 10/-d. for each resident. The Staff of the Anglo Celtic Watch Co., Ltd., Ystradgynlais, presented a decorated Christmas Tree to both "Gellygron" and "Danybryn," Pontardawe, together with individual gifts for each resident there.

The Staff of the Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Hirwaun Trading Estate, were also fulsome in their contribution to the old people's pleasure by presenting 195 gifts of sweets and cigarettes to the residents of "Tegfan," Aberdare, and to the residents of Part III Accommodation, Graig Hospital, Pontypridd, bedsocks, aprons, nightdress cases and handkerchiefs for the ladies, and sweets, chocolates and cigarettes for the men.

To the old people at "Fairfield," Treallaw, and Graig Hospital (Part III Accommodation), the highlight of their Christmas was undoubtedly provided by the generosity of the Staff of K.L.G. Sparking Plugs Limited, Treforest Industrial Estate. In addition to gifts of money, cigarettes, tobacco and chocolate, on Boxing Day a party of 100 residents was taken to see the pantomime "Cinderella" at the New Theatre, Cardiff and tribute is due to the organisers for their excellent arrangements and the care and attention bestowed upon the old people both during the journey and at the theatre. As the Chairman of the County Council, who was also invited, subsequently said: "It was indeed a day which will long be remembered not only by the old people but also by my wife and myself."

Many private individuals make a point of supplying neighbouring Homes with fruit, flowers, sweets, etc. throughout the year, and magazines and books are also popular gifts. The Rector of Llanmadoc kindly presented an invalid chair for use by the more infirm residents of "The Hollies" and many benefactors donated tins of biscuits and sweets. A rather unusual gift for the residents of "Gellygron" was a set of putting irons, golf balls and markers, presented by the Pontardawe Golf Club which also arranged for their groundsman to mark out a small putting course at the Home.

I cannot praise too highly the kindness and humanity of many Church and Social Organisations who give freely of their leisure time to entertain the old people. In May, 1959, the Rhoose Women's Institute Choir gave excellent choral concerts at "Gwalia," "Gardenhurst," and "The Court," whilst the Isabel Davies Male Singers regularly include in their winter and autumn programme a visit to the various Homes for the Aged in the South East Glamorgan area. Traditional Welsh Chorals and other concerts are greatly enjoyed by the old people, whose obvious appreciation is itself sufficient reward for the effort and money expended by Glee Parties and Choirs in this noble work.

Notwithstanding the variety of entertainments provided, it is refreshing in this "T.V." age to find that some people can still gain satisfaction from their own achievements while adding to the enjoyment of others. At "Tegfan," for instance, the residents' male voice choir to which I referred in last year's Report is now a firmly established favourite and in December, 1959, a B.B.C. recording of the Choir and interviews with the residents was broadcast in the Welsh Programme. The photograph on page 37 shows some of the old gentlemen at "Tegfan" in front of the microphone. Activities of this nature are undoubtedly stimulating not only to the active participants but also to their fellow-residents, and my only regret is that such "do-it-yourself" programmes are not more prevalent among the old people.

On the 31st July last, the residents of "The Court" had the pleasure of hearing a visiting Children's Choir from Germany. An event greatly appreciated by the old people at "Glanymor" is the annual invitation to a tea and concert organised by the Penclawdd Women's Social Service Club. Also last summer the Neath Round Table Club arranged a coach

tour of the Gower for the residents of "Caewern" and "Bronleigh," followed by an evening meal at a Mumbles restaurant. A Pontardawe lady has on several occasions taken three residents of "Gellygron" for a car drive and picnic, and one can imagine the pleasure experienced at the unexpected outing.

These are but a few examples of the public's kindness and generosity, and to all those who contributed so greatly to the old people's happiness during the year I personally extend my grateful thanks. I cannot conclude this aspect of my Report without also expressing my appreciation, on behalf of the residents, of the keen interest taken in their welfare by members of the Welfare Services Committee, who are only too pleased to discuss any individual problem, however small.

Annual Outings

Although it is perhaps the unexpected trip which often provides the greatest pleasure, there is no question of the annual summer outing's popularity with the old people. Like everyone else, they look forward to a break from the usual round — to see new places, or to revisit nostalgically remembered places. When the time comes to select the venue each year there is much discussion at each Home among the residents, who weigh the advantages and disadvantages of a dozen or more "possibles" before finally deciding on the most popular choice. Last year, at the request of the majority of residents concerned, outings were arranged as follows :—

"Tegfan," Aberdare	To Porthcawl
Graig Hospital (Part III Accommodation), Pontypridd ..	„ Wye Valley
"Fairfield," Trealaw	„ Porthcawl
"Gardenhurst," Penarth } ..	„ Porthcawl
"Gwalia," Barry } ..	
"The Court," St. Fagans	„ Stratford-on-Avon
"Craig-y-Parcau," Bridgend ..	„ Mumbles & Gower Coast
"Danygraig" and "Moorlands," Porthcawl	„ Wye Valley
"Bronleigh" & Caewern," Neath ..	„ Hereford
"Gellygron," Pontardawe	„ Gower Coast
"Danybryn," Pontardawe	„ Porthcawl
"The Hollies," Pontardulais ..	„ Porthcawl
"Glanymor" & "Lulsley," Gower ..	„ Saundersfoot

Admissions to Homes for the Aged

Despite a slowly increasing provision of beds, the number of admissions to County Homes during the past twelve months has been noticeably less than in former years. As will be seen from Table 2 on page 27, although the total applications received numbered 476 compared with 508 the previous year, only 139 applicants could be admitted immediately compared with 211 in 1958/59, and 220 had to be placed on the waiting list. Of the latter, the majority was admitted after various periods depending on the type of accommodation required, e.g. small-unit

home, ground floor accommodation, preference for a particular home, etc., but on the 31st March, 1960, the names of 22 men and 51 women (including 14 men and 14 women in County Homes awaiting transfer) were on the waiting list — an increase of 3 men and 13 women over the figures on 31st March, 1959.

Table 2 also illustrates the various sources from which applications are received and the incidence of applications in the various County Areas. Whether coincidental or not, there appears to be a relationship between the number of applications and the extent of accommodation provided in any particular area — for example, the Caerphilly Area provided the lowest number of applications (26) whilst the greatest demand came from the Neath and West Glamorgan Areas (79 applications); it is significant that these two areas contain respectively the lowest and highest number of beds. With the establishment of more homes, it is almost certain that a greater number of applications will be received from the surrounding districts. This is not to say that the provision of additional accommodation creates a new demand but rather that it meets a demand which has been latent for one of two reasons — firstly, that in districts where provision is totally lacking, County Homes are still something of “an unknown quantity,” and secondly, that, except in the most urgent circumstances, old people are reluctant to move to another district away from life-long ties and friends. Your long-term development plan provides for the siting of Homes, not only on an administrative area basis, but also on the more localised County District level and, when fully implemented, should effectively meet the real needs of people throughout the County.

The existence of a waiting list for admission to County Homes for the Aged — usually the small unit homes — necessitates close scrutiny of all pending applications whenever a vacancy occurs. Whilst applications are normally dealt with in strict rotation, priority has sometimes to be accorded in extreme urgent circumstances and the filling of a vacancy is invariably a complex problem. Periodical reviews of the waiting list are made and each person whose name is included is re-visited by the Area Clerk to ensure that there is no change in his/her circumstances necessitating revision of priority.

Ordinary Residence

In addition to providing residential accommodation where necessary for persons ordinarily resident in their areas, County and County Borough Councils have a duty to provide such accommodation for a person in their area wherever he may be ordinarily resident, provided he is in urgent need of care and attention. The Authority providing accommodation for a person ordinarily resident in the area of another Authority may recover the costs from the latter Authority.

Normally, agreement is reached between the two Authorities concerned as to financial responsibility, but, where disputed, the Minister is required to determine the place of ordinary residence in any particular case.

Where no question of urgency is involved, the Authority must obtain the prior consent of the Authority in whose area the person requiring accommodation is ordinarily resident. Thus, at the 31st March, 1960, the following Authorities provided residential accommodation in their homes for persons ordinarily resident in Glamorgan, for whom your Committee are financially responsible :—

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
Breconshire County Council	1	4
Carmarthenshire County Council	1	—
Merthyr Tydfil Corporation	2	3
Monmouthshire County Council	1	1
Newport Corporation	—	1
Pembrokeshire County Council	—	1
Somerset County Council	—	1
Swansea Corporation	1	2
	6	13

Conversely, accommodation was being provided in Glamorgan Homes for 14 men and 14 women on behalf of other Authorities.

Residential Accommodation for Disabled and Handicapped Persons

In considering the needs of “ the aged and infirm ” in relation to residential accommodation, Local Authorities are required to have regard to the need for providing accommodation of different descriptions suited to the various categories of persons. Whilst “ the aged ” offer no undue difficulty, “ the infirm ” include persons with a wide variety of disabilities and handicaps whose needs can often best be met by specialised organisations economically operating on a country-wide basis. In providing accommodation for these special classes, Local Authorities are urged by Ministry of Health Circular 87/48 to enter into agency arrangements with other Local Authorities or voluntary bodies specialising in this form of care. Your Committee has normally agreed to such arrangements where appropriate, subject to the Voluntary Home concerned providing facilities and amenities of a standard comparable with those in Glamorgan Homes.

Similar consideration is given to applications from persons with strong religious or social affiliations who seek admission to Homes administered by religious or other organisations.

On the 31st March, 1960, 31 men and 18 women, ordinarily resident in Glamorgan, were maintained on behalf of your Committee at the following voluntary homes :—

<i>Home</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
Langho Epileptic Colony, Blackburn ..	2	1
Maghull Epileptic Colony, Liverpool ..	1	2
David Lewis Epileptic Colony, Cheshire	1	1
Chalfont Epileptic Colony, Bucks. ..	6	3
Glynn Vivian Home of Rest for the Blind, Mumbles	4	1
Southerndown Home of Rest for the Blind	1	1
Royal School for the Blind, Leatherhead	—	1
Searchlight Cripples' Workshops, Newhaven	1	—

<i>Home</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
Ernest Wray Hostel for the Deaf and Dumb, Hull	—	1
British Legion Home, Bwlch, Brecon ..	10	—
Methodist Home for the Aged, Harrogate	—	2
W.V.S. Home, Hampstead	—	1
Church of Scotland Home, Hamilton ..	1	—
Cheshire Foundation Home, Kington Langley	—	1
“Tanybryn” Cripples Home, Abergele	1	—
National Spastics Society, Prested Hall, Essex	1	—
Royal National Institute for the Blind Home, St. Leonards-on-Sea ..	—	1
Boston and Holland Blind Society, Sunnholme	—	1
Dorincourt Estates, Leatherhead ..	—	1
Star and Garter Home, Surrey	1	—
William Simpson Home, Plean	1	—
	—	—
	31	18
	—	—

Compulsory Removal of Persons in Need of Care and Attention

It should be noted that although County Councils have a duty to provide residential accommodation, they have no powers to admit or detain persons against their will. Circumstances do arise, however, where it is necessary to remove certain persons from insanitary conditions and Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, is intended to meet such contingencies.

Briefly, in County Areas Section 47 confers powers on District Councils (but not the County Council) for the removal in certain circumstances to hospital or residential accommodation of persons who :—

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm, or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

Application for the requisite Order may be made to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction only on the written certificate of the District Council's Medical Officer of Health, and such certificate can only be given after thorough inquiry and consideration, not only in the interests of the person concerned but also because of the risk of injury to health of, or serious nuisance to, other persons. Where expedient, the Court may order the removal of the person concerned to a suitable hospital or other place (e.g. residential accommodation) for any period not exceeding three months.

A speedier procedure contained in the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, enables application to be made either to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction or to a single Justice of the Peace, should the Medical Officer of Health and another registered medical practitioner certify, in the interests of the person, the necessity of immediate removal. An Order made under this procedure may not, however, authorise a person's detention for more than three weeks.

Whichever procedure is invoked, the maximum period of detention may be extended from time to time by the Court for such further period not exceeding three months, as may be determined.

I am pleased to report that, in contrast with the previous year when seven persons had to be admitted, no admissions were made to County Homes during the past twelve months under these provisions.

Registration of Homes for Aged or Disabled Persons

In addition to Homes run by Welfare Authorities, Voluntary Homes for Aged or Disabled Persons may be carried on by private persons or organisations subject to registration under Sections 37 to 40 of the National Assistance Act, 1948. In general, hospitals, nursing homes and certain premises administered by statutory authorities or by special Act of Parliament, etc. are specifically excluded from these provisions.

To ensure a satisfactory standard, the managing body, under penalty of fine and/or imprisonment, is required to register a Voluntary Home with the County or County Borough Council in whose area the Home is situated. Registration may be refused or subsequently cancelled should the Authority consider that certain essential conditions are not satisfied.

In Glamorgan, the following three Homes are registered with the County Council :—

- (i) “ *Redcroft*,” *Lougher Gardens, Porthcawl*
Accommodation provided for 25 old ladies by the Cardiff, South Wales and Monmouthshire Federation of Sisterhoods. (Registered 15th November, 1950).
- (ii) “ *Holmesdale*,” *Holmesdale Place, Penarth*
A Home for 20 old ladies maintained by the Cardiff, South Wales and Monmouthshire Federation of Sisterhoods. (Registered 17th November, 1954).
- (iii) “ *The Home of Rest for the Blind*,” *Southerndown*
Accommodation is available here for 56 blind persons of both sexes, and is provided by the South Wales and Monmouthshire Regional Council for the Blind. (Registered 15th December, 1954).

Representatives of the County Council as Registration Authority are empowered to enter and inspect these homes at all reasonable times and accordingly representatives of the Welfare Services Department, the County Architect and Chief Fire Officer, make inspections at appropriate intervals and report to your Sub-Committee.

Booklet for the Aged and Infirm

Last year I referred to the publication and distribution in 1958 of a " Guide to Welfare Services for the Aged and Infirm in Glamorgan " — a handbook devised to inform the County's aged and infirm of the various welfare and social services available to them through both statutory and voluntary agencies. Although at that time, approximately 62,000 booklets were issued, it became necessary in June, 1959, to distribute a further 6,800 booklets to new pensioners and pensioners, who for one reason or another, did not receive a copy when originally circulated. In this, the Department was again indebted to the G.P.O. for Wales and the Border Counties and to Sub-Postmasters and Postmistresses throughout the County who kindly co-operated by issuing the booklets to pensioners when encashing their pensions.

Depending upon the extent of amending legislation, etc. you have decided to revise and re-issue the " Guide " at intervals of three to five years.

Refresher Courses for Wardens and Matrons

Residential refresher courses held by the National Old People's Welfare Council this year at Southampton and Oxford, were attended by the Matrons of " Danybryn," Pontardawe, and " Craig-y-Parcau," Bridgend, respectively.

The Human Side of the Service

An unavoidable tragedy of the Welfare State is the difficulty in some instances of ascertaining at an early stage the need for one or more of the social services. Even when the need has been ascertained it is often equally difficult to persuade persons, independent by nature, to use the appropriate service. The need thus may eventually become desperate, and apathy and utter misery destroy the will to have matters put right. One such case that comes to mind concerned an old lady of eighty, who had lived alone for four years in a tiny cottage in the Neath Valley. The department first learned of the circumstances through a telephone call from the local Medical Officer of Health, giving notice of his intention to remove the old lady compulsorily under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, as she would not agree to enter a Home for the Aged voluntarily. The following day, however, her own family doctor was able to persuade her to change her mind and she was visited immediately by the Area Clerk. He found the home to be little more than a hovel ; the old lady a pathetic sight, poorly clad and extremely dirty. In the words of the Area Clerk :

" It was extremely unlikely that she had seen soap and water for many years, the dirt appearing to be ingrained in the pores of her skin. The stench emanating from her person was over-powering and the old soul obviously had no control over her bodily functions. She was extremely deaf but I managed to make her understand the purpose of my visit. She indicated her willingness to enter a Home because she was unable to look after herself and she signed the application form.

It was difficult to interview Mrs. S. in the foul atmosphere and impossible to sit down in the house because of the state of the few articles of furniture in the kitchen. There was water and mud on the floor, a great deal of it having been swept away already by a neighbour. This water was coming through the back doorway where a stream ran alongside the houses. There is no sewage system in this district and this might well be the reason for the stench that existed. The bedroom again was very sparsely furnished and the clothes appeared so black that they may well have been brought from the coalmine. I could not possibly have entered this room where incidentally the roof was leaking and the rain dripping on to the floor and bed itself. Altogether for me, this was a most harrowing experience and I would only say that animals live in better and more healthy conditions.

Arrangements were made for Mrs. S's immediate admission to "Danybryn," without attempting to cleanse her under these impossible conditions. The Warden of "Danybryn" and his female staff had to cut off the old lady's hair to the minimum because of the filth and grime, rip the stockings from her legs and, after bathing her several times, were afraid to scrub her any more in case the skin itself came off."

No doubt every welfare authority in the country has experienced the incorrigible wanderer. Mr. W., for example, "took to the road" in 1945 and travelled the country living on charity. In December, 1959, at the age of 79 years, he slept on consecutive nights at Reception Centres in Bristol, Gloucester, Newport, and the Salvation Army Hostel, Cardiff. From there he went to Neath, where, tired and hungry, he said he wished to settle down in an Old People's Home. His wish was granted and he was admitted to "Danybryn." Two weeks there was apparently sufficient to restore his spirits for he decided to resume his nomadic habits, only to turn up again at Neath on the 14th March, 1960, having roamed all over the Midlands in the meantime. This time, for a change, he was admitted to "Glanymor," but after a week the old 'itch' overtook him and we have not seen him since.

Perhaps the most difficult problems are posed by the young person who, for various reasons, is virtually unemployable and in need of care and attention. Usually physically and/or mentally handicapped, he is a misfit in a Home for the Aged and Infirm where he has to spend his time in the company of people two or even three generations removed.

Mr. J., for instance, developed a curvature of the spine following an illness when he was 14 years old. His growth was seriously stunted and he suffers from incontinency, and, whether or not due to an "inferiority complex," he has done no work for the past three of his 23 years. In November last when he and his parents were evicted from their home, he refused to be considered for Part III Accommodation, but after sleeping "rough" for a week, agreed to enter "Tegfan." Within a very short period, it was obvious that Mr. J's general health was greatly improved and he was encouraged to sign on at the Employment Exchange. His incontinency, however, continued to cause concern and although his

Doctor could find no physical cause for his condition, it was obvious that this complaint would seriously jeopardise any possibility of his obtaining employment and lodgings. With the co-operation of the County Medical Officer, arrangements were made for Mr. J. to be examined by the Consultant Psychiatrist at Merthyr General Hospital. It was decided that he would benefit from psychiatric treatment at Morgannwg Hospital, Bridgend, where he is now receiving treatment as a voluntary patient, and it is hoped that he will soon be able to take his proper place in society.

Our oldest resident at "Gardenhurst" suffered a fractured femur through a fall on Christmas Eve. A great favourite with staff and fellow-residents alike, there were very glum faces at the Home when "Gran" was taken to hospital by ambulance. No-one dared to hope that she would return but all evidently underestimated the old lady's spirit, for she returned home in March in good time to celebrate her 99th birthday a fortnight later. A very wonderful woman !

Everyone loves a Wedding, so it is said, and old people are no exception, particularly when the principals are married from their own Home for the Aged. Last year an elderly couple from "Fairfield," Treallaw, and two couples from "The Hollies," Pontardulais, were married amid great excitement. The former are still residing at "Fairfield," but the others decided to set up home on their own.

Twelve months ago, the rockery in the grounds of "The Court," St. Fagans, was a wilderness of brambles and weeds. On her own initiative one of the residents, Miss R., decided to clear the ground and replant it with a variety of flowering shrubs and plants. The success of her unaided efforts is evident from the illustration on page 38 which shows Miss R. proudly tending "her rockery."

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

The National Assistance Act, 1948, imposes a duty on County and County Borough Councils to provide temporary accommodation for persons who are in urgent need thereof in circumstances which could not reasonably have been foreseen or in such other circumstances as the Authority may in any particular case determine. The Authority is, therefore, charged with accommodating temporarily persons rendered homeless in sudden emergencies which could not have been anticipated and only if it so declares, persons becoming homeless through their own shortcomings, e.g. eviction for arrears of rent, etc.

Emergencies Arising from Fire, Flooding, or other Emergency

The broad division between the two classes of homeless persons for whom provision is made necessitates a similar distinction in the nature of the accommodation and ancillary services provided. The victims of fire and flooding disasters, etc. usually are soon able to surmount their difficulties but, meanwhile, assistance may urgently be required. To meet the immediate needs of those whose homes are rendered permanently or temporarily uninhabitable in this way, the Committee has earmarked and acquired the right to use some forty halls situated in strategic parts

of the County. Beds, bedding, cooking utensils and other equipment, held for the Department by the County Supplies Officer, can be transported at short notice to the chosen "rest centre" and light refreshments readily prepared from stocks held by the Department. Emergency feeding arrangements include the subsequent provision of normal cooked meals, where necessary, by the Education Committee's School Meals Service, which is on call for this purpose at all times.

It is envisaged that whilst the Scheme could cope with emergencies involving up to 200 homeless persons, any catastrophe of greater magnitude would rank as a disaster for which aid could be expected on a national basis — an arrangement with which the Welsh Board of Health has concurred.

Natural occurrences involving damage and destruction to homes are generally unpredictable and the Department's Officers are therefore on call at any hour of the day and night to deal with eventualities which might arise. Abnormally high tides, however, can be anticipated to some extent and your Officers — particularly those serving in coastal areas — are alerted to the need for special vigilance on these occasions.

Eviction

There is no statutory obligation on the Authority to provide accommodation for families rendered homeless as a result of non-payment of rent or anti-social behaviour. However, in common with most other Welfare Authorities, the County Council, for humanitarian reasons, provides temporary accommodation for these families where there is no other alternative. The Authority's functions extend only to temporary accommodation and accordingly the stay of each family at Rhoose Camp is limited to a maximum period of six months.

Cooking and laundry facilities are communal but individual tables, food lockers, crockery, cutlery, etc. in the dining room and a separate dormitory for each family help to encourage initiative and independence. Maximum accommodation is 18 mothers and 72 children.

Because of the limited number for whom accommodation is available, every care is taken to ensure that families are admitted only as a last resort. Consequently, each application for accommodation is investigated thoroughly and advice and assistance is given to the families concerned. The efforts of the officers of the Authority are directed towards forestalling eviction where possible, but if this cannot be achieved, relatives and friends are approached to provide the family with shelter. Here I would like to make special mention of the strenuous preventive action carried out by Officers of the Children's Department and Welfare Services Department. Undoubtedly, this has succeeded in curtailing the number of admissions to Rhoose Camp to a minimum.

It is pleasing to record that during the year there was a slight reduction in the number of applications for temporary accommodation, as can be seen from Table 5 on page 30. Altogether 96 applications were received compared with 99 during the previous year; of these, 29 mothers and 86

children had to be admitted compared with 33 mothers and 104 children in the preceding year. Only three of the families admitted during the course of the year had been evicted from Council houses.

Table 6 on page 31 gives details of discharges from Rhoose Camp during the year. Of the 25 families discharged, two had been at Rhoose Camp for the maximum period of residence of six months and the nine children concerned were taken into care. Nine other children from three families had to be taken into care when they were abandoned by their mothers at the Camp, and in one other case an only child was already in care because of the mother's anticipated confinement when she left the Camp to live in furnished rooms. The average duration of stay of families in the Camp of those discharged during the year was just over two months compared with $3\frac{1}{2}$ months the previous year. The average occupancy was 5 mothers and 17 children compared with 9 mothers and 28 children in 1958/59. The largest number accommodated at the Camp at one time was 11 mothers and 34 children in September, 1959, the lowest was one mother and six children in February, 1960. The reduction in the length of stay of families at the Camp undoubtedly stems from the families now comprehending fully that the accommodation is of a purely temporary nature and that they themselves must make strenuous efforts to obtain other accommodation.

Mention must be made here of the important rehabilitative work painstakingly carried out by the Warden and Matron at Rhoose Camp. On admission many of the mothers are seriously lacking in knowledge of the most elementary principles of domestic management and mothercraft. Patient advice and guidance often leads to a marked improvement in standards, though whether this can be maintained for long after discharge must depend on other factors such as the type of accommodation secured and the extent of the co-operation from the husband. In this work of rehabilitation the Warden and Matron receive invaluable co-operation from the local Health Visitor who visits the Camp regularly.

The charge for temporary accommodation is based on the amount of net income apportioned to members of the family after the varying allowances have been made under the County Council's Unified Income Scale. The maximum is a standard charge of £4 4s. 3d. per week (to be raised to £5 7s. 3d. from 1st April, 1960); the minimum charge is £1 per week.

PROTECTION OF MOVABLE PROPERTY OF PERSONS ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL AND RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION

Section 48 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, places a duty in certain circumstances, on County and County Borough Councils to protect the movable property of persons admitted to any hospital or to residential accommodation. Under these provisions, the Council is required to take reasonable steps to protect such property where it appears that there is risk of loss or damage and that no other suitable arrangements have been made.

During the year under review, the furniture and effects of one patient had to be removed into store and, at the 31st March, 1960, the County Council was paying storage charges in three cases.

MENTAL PATIENTS — RECEIVERSHIP

Where a person admitted to hospital or residential accommodation is found to be incapable of managing his own affairs, it sometimes becomes necessary to commence Receivership proceedings. Comprehensive and exhaustive enquiries have to be made in these cases before the Court of Protection can decide whether the circumstances justify the appointment of a Receiver. If no other suitable persons, e.g. a relative, is available to act in this capacity, at the Court's request, I normally apply for my appointment as Receiver.

In the twelve months ended 31st March, 1960, I was appointed Receiver of the income of six patients and my receivership was terminated in three cases due to the death or discharge of the patient. At the end of the year, 36 Receivership cases were currently being administered.

OVERSEAS VISITORS AND STUDENTS

The Department is always pleased to afford facilities through the Universities, the Colonial Office, etc. to students of Social Science and visitors from abroad to visit Homes for the Aged and other welfare premises.

During the past twelve months two colonial officers from Tanganyika and one from Sierra Leone were conducted on a detailed tour of "The Court," St. Fagans, and the County Workshops for the Blind, Treforest. A Turkish Cypriot sponsored by Swansea University College, whose particular interest is in "In-Service Training" was able to gain first-hand experience of the department's methods of instructing Trainee Home Visitors of the Handicapped and attended a seminar held at "Holly House," Pontypridd.

Four social science students of Swansea University College, including one from Indonesia, were also attached to the department for periods varying from one to two weeks. Each was based on an Area Office and given facilities to acquire practical knowledge, and from subsequent reports I received the experience they gained in various aspects of welfare work was most beneficial.

STATISTICS AND PHOTOGRAPHS

Set out on the following pages are statistical tables and photographs, the captions of which are self-explanatory :—

Table 1

HOMES FOR THE AGED

Distribution of Available Accommodation on 31st March, 1960

Area	Establishment	Accommodation			Floor	Distribution of Accommodation						Total for each Floor
						In Single Rooms		In Double Rooms		In Rooms for Three or more Residents		
		M.	F.	Total		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Aberdare ..	Tegfan	204	—	204	Gr. 1st	— —	— —	— 2	— —	75 127	— —	75 129
Pontypridd and Rhondda	Graig Hospital (Part III)	69	69	138	Gr. 1st 2nd	2 — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — 67	— 64 5	2 64 72
	Fairfield	18	15	33	Gr. 1st	14 —	9 —	2 2	2 4	— —	— —	27 6
Caerphilly ..	Bro Dawel	18	17	35	Gr. 1st	5 6	4 6	2 5	4 3	— —	— —	15 20
South-East Glamorgan	Gwalia	—	34	34	Gr. 1st	— —	— 5	— —	2 12	— —	3 12	5 29
	Eastcliffe (closed temporarily 20.5.59)	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	The Court	12	29	41	Gr. 1st 2nd	— — —	— — 1	— 8 —	— 2 —	— 4 —	7 12 7	7 26 8
	Garden-hurst	—	27	27	Gr. 1st	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	6 21	6 21
	Bryneithin (closed temporarily 16.2.59)	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bridgend ..	Danygraig	21	12	33	Gr. 1st	— —	— —	— 2	— —	3 16	5 7	8 25
	Moorlands	10	16	26	Gr. 1st 2nd	2 — 6	4 6 —	— 2 —	— 2 —	— — —	— 4 —	6 14 6
	Craig-y-Parcau	19	20	39	Gr. 1st	1 2	6 10	— 12	— —	4 —	— 4	11 28
Neath ..	Bronleigh	—	16	16	Gr. 1st	— —	— 2	— —	— 4	— —	3 7	3 13
	Caewern	15	11	26	1st 2nd	— —	— —	— —	2 —	15 —	— 9	17 9
West Glamorgan	Glanymor	44	62	106	Gr. 1st	— —	— —	— 2	— —	10 32	11 51	21 85
	Danybryn	76	31	107	Gr. 1st	— —	— —	— 2	4 —	36 38	17 10	57 50
	Gellygron	12	11	23	Gr. 1st	— —	— 1	— 4	— 6	— 8	4 —	4 19
	The Hollies	13	15	28	Gr. 1st	3 5	4 5	— 2	— —	— 3	— 6	7 21
TOTALS ..		531	385	916		46	63	47	47	438	275	916

APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION **Table 2**
1st APRIL, 1959 — 31st MARCH, 1960

Applications received from	Number admitted to Homes		Number placed on waiting list		Number of applications withdrawn		Number not suitable		Applications under Investigation		TOTALS	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Persons themselves or relatives	2	1	8	16	4	11	1	3	—	1	15	32
Members of County Council	6	3	2	3	9	6	2	5	1	—	20	17
Pontypridd and Rhondda Area	16	7	4	10	2	2	2	4	—	—	24	23
Caerphilly Area	9	—	3	11	1	—	—	1	1	—	14	12
South East Glamorgan Area	12	5	2	23	2	4	—	—	—	1	16	33
Aberdare Area	19	2	3	11	2	5	—	2	1	—	25	20
Bridgend Area	8	2	5	9	—	1	1	1	1	—	15	13
Neath and West Glamorgan Areas	24	14	9	20	5	1	3	2	1	—	42	37
Medical Practitioners	1	—	—	3	2	—	5	—	—	—	8	3
Miscellaneous (including applications for transfer from residents in County Homes)	8	—	45	33	2	4	3	3	6	3	64	43
TOTALS	105	34	81	139	29	34	17	21	11	5	243	233
Comparative totals for previous year	132	79	61	94	43	49	18	32	—	—	254	254

Table 3

ADMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES AT COUNTY HOMES
During Period 1st April, 1959 — 31st March, 1960

Home	Admissions (Including Re-Admissions)		Discharges		Deaths		Transfers to Hospitals	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Tegfan	119	—	38	—	27	—	52	—
Bro Dawel (opened—19.9.59)	17	22	—	—	—	—	1	4
Graig (Part III)	60	49	30	12	—	1	30	31
Gwalia	—	13	—	7	—	—	—	7
Eastcliffe (closed—20.5.59)	—	—	17	—	—	—	1	—
Gardenhurst	—	14	—	6	—	1	—	3
The Court	5	8	—	—	3	5	2	1
Craig-y-Parcau	7	10	—	1	4	2	2	4
Danygraig	5	4	—	1	—	—	5	3
Moorlands	9	10	2	6	—	—	3	3
Bronleigh	—	3	—	1	—	1	—	2
Caewern	4	6	1	4	—	1	2	2
Gellygron	7	6	6	3	3	—	2	3
Danybryn	22	10	14	3	13	5	8	2
Glanymor	20	18	6	6	9	8	6	14
Lulsley (closed—10.10.59)	—	—	10	5	—	—	1	—
The Hollies	5	14	5	7	—	2	4	3
Fairfield	5	5	—	2	1	—	3	4
TOTALS	285	192	129	64	60	26	122	86
Totals at 31.3.59	284	246	106	70	55	38	110	80

Table 4
CLASSIFICATION OF RESIDENTS IN COUNTY HOMES BY AGE GROUPS AS AT 31st MARCH, 1960

HOME	Under 65		65-69		70-74		75-79		80-84		85-89		90 and over		TOTALS	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Tegfan	30	—	18	—	32	—	47	—	42	—	13	—	4	—	186	—
Graig (Part III)	12	22	9	7	11	10	17	16	6	7	1	6	—	1	56	69
Fairfield	1	1	4	1	5	1	2	3	4	6	3	2	—	—	19	14
Gwalia	—	1	—	2	—	7	—	5	—	10	—	6	—	3	—	34
Gardenhurst	—	2	—	2	—	4	—	4	—	7	—	5	—	3	—	27
The Court	—	4	1	—	6	4	2	6	—	6	3	7	—	1	12	28
Craig-y-Parcrau	3	2	—	3	3	2	6	3	4	4	2	5	—	—	18	19
Danygraig	—	1	2	—	2	2	6	1	8	1	3	6	—	1	21	12
Moorlands	—	1	1	2	4	3	4	4	—	3	1	3	—	—	10	16
Caewern	1	—	1	—	3	7	—	—	9	2	1	2	—	—	15	11
Bronleigh	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	2	—	6	—	1	—	2	—	15
Danybryn	9	10	12	3	5	6	12	5	10	3	6	3	1	1	55	31
Gellygron	—	4	—	—	1	—	3	1	1	2	2	3	—	—	7	10
The Hollies	—	4	2	—	1	3	1	3	4	2	—	2	—	2	8	16
Glanymor	2	17	6	10	1	12	4	7	8	4	2	7	1	2	24	59
Bro Dawel	—	1	—	2	4	1	4	5	4	6	4	2	1	1	17	18
TOTALS	58	71	56	33	78	64	108	65	100	69	41	60	7	17	448	379
Totals at 31st March, 1959	61	72	52	40	84	57	119	61	100	65	49	51	8	15	473	361

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION
DETAILS OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED DURING YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1960

Table 5

CLASSIFICATION OF DIFFICULTIES CAUSING APPLICATION																															
Manner in which applications were resolved	Total number of applications received during year		LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSES										PRIVATELY OWNED PROPERTIES										Total number of applications received during previous year 1958-59								
			Eviction for mortgage or arrears	Eviction from unauthorised sub-tenancy	Eviction for unsatisfactory behaviour	Eviction from "tied" accommodation	Family or Matrimonial Disputes	Total	Eviction for mortgage or arrears	Eviction for unsatisfactory behaviour	Insanitary conditions or overcrowding	Family or Matrimonial Disputes	Eviction from "tied" accommodation	Insecurity of Tenure (furnished rooms, etc.)	Eviction from unauthorised sub-tenancy	Home destroyed or damaged by fire, flood, etc.	Total														
																		Wm	Ch	Wm	Ch	Wm			Ch	Wm	Ch	Wm	Ch	Wm	Ch
Rehoused by Local Authority ..	3	11	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	5	17								
Sheltered by Relatives or Friends	7	19	1	4	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	11	22							
Obtained alternative accommodation ..	25	78	7	19	1	10	1	2	—	—	—	9	31	4	18	1	2	2	6	3	8	2	4	16	47	19	39				
Difficulties resolved	31	96	11	44	—	—	2	6	—	—	—	15	56	1	3	1	2	1	3	6	15	2	7	5	10	16	40	28	91		
Accommodated by other Authorities	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	
Children taken into care and mother accommodated elsewhere ..	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	1	6	—	—	
Admitted to temporary accommodation ..	29	86	3	16	2	7	—	—	—	—	—	5	23	10	23	1	2	6	17	2	6	1	5	2	3	—	—	24	63	33	104
TOTALS ..	96	294	23	91	4	19	3	8	—	—	—	32	124	16	48	4	10	9	26	12	30	5	16	13	26	4	13	64	170	—	—
Comparative totals for previous year	99	285	24	84	12	24	1	4	1	1	—	38	113	15	50	2	10	6	17	14	34	2	3	14	43	7	14	61	172	99	285

Table 6

DISCHARGES FROM TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION — YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1960

REASONS FOR DISCHARGE	PERIOD SPENT IN TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION										TOTAL 1959-1960		Comparative totals for previous year 1958-1959	
	One week or less		One week to one month		One month to three months		Three months to six months		Six months to one year					Over one year
	Wm.	Ch.	Wm.	Ch.	Wm.	Ch.	Wm.	Ch.	Wm.	Ch.	Wm.	Ch.		
Rehoused by Local Authority	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	12
Obtained Private Accommodation	1	2	1	5	5	12	1	6	—	—	8	25	26	76
Obtained Residential Employment	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3
Obtained Accommodation by reason of husband's employment	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Obtained accommodation with relatives or friends ..	2	5	4	11	3	5	1	3	—	—	10	24	4	13
Mother left Temporary Accommodation and children taken into care	—	—	2	6	1	1	2	6	—	—	5	13	5	15
Expiry of maximum authorised period of residence in temporary accommodation	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	9	—	—	2	*9	7	‡26
Adopted	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS 1959-60	3	7	7	22	9	18	6	24	—	—	25	71	—	—
Comparative totals for previous year 1958-59 ..	5	12	4	6	15	51	13	40	9	35	1	2	47	146

*These children were taken into care.

‡Includes 22 children taken into care.



"HELLO DEAR, MOTHER HERE . . ."



" BRO DAWEL "



THE DINING ROOM AT "BRO DAWEL"



DOUBLE BEDROOM AT "BRO DAWEL"



B.B.C. RECORDINGS AT "TEGFAN," ABERDAKE



THE ROCKERY AT "THE COURT," ST. FAGANS

PART II

THE HANDICAPPED PERSON

“THE GUIDING PRINCIPLE of the welfare service should be to ensure that all handicapped persons, whatever their disability, should have the maximum opportunity of sharing in and contributing to the life of the community, so that their capacities are realised to the full, their self-confidence developed, and their social contacts strengthened. The provision of skilled advice and help will in most instances be the pre-requisite to the achievement of this aim.”

MINISTRY OF HEALTH CIRCULAR NO. 87, 1948.

WELFARE OF THE HANDICAPPED

WELFARE OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS (OTHER THAN THE BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED)

The powers given to Local Authorities to provide under the National Assistance Act, 1948, welfare services for disabled persons other than the blind are not compulsory and by no means all Authorities have made use of them. The Younghusband Committee, whose valuable report appeared during the year under review, indicated that by 31st March, 1957, 24 per cent of Authorities still had not had schemes approved by the Minister. Furthermore, as the Report states — “the existence of an approved scheme does not imply either that registration is complete or that an effective service is being given.”

It is, therefore, most pleasing to record that, since their inception in May 1952, the Glamorgan Schemes for the provision of welfare services for the generally handicapped and deaf and hard of hearing have been progressively developed and firm foundations of the Schemes have been truly laid. However, two crucial problems will continue to call for close examination. Firstly, how best can available resources be distributed among the competing claims within the service. Secondly, how can existing staff be deployed so as to ensure that the varying needs of handicapped persons are catered for in the spirit of the Younghusband Report.

The following record provides, I think, evidence of the way in which the Authority, whilst giving practical, immediate aid to a long-neglected section of the community bears in mind always the need for laying a firm basis for future developments.

1. WELFARE OF THE GENERALLY HANDICAPPED

Registration

This year there was a net increase of 71 persons whose names were placed in the three Registers of the Handicapped as compared with a net increase of 356 and 213 for the two previous years. The total numbers of persons in the three main groups of the Register are as follows :—

	Generally Handicapped Register	Deaf Register	Hard of Hearing Register	TOTAL
	4,148	254	274	4,676
Comparable figures at 31st March, 1959	4,073	260	272	4,605

The reducing trend of net increase has been noticeable for some time and there is evidence to suggest that it is mainly attributable to greater efficiency in registration than was possible at the inauguration of the Service. In March 1960, all registrations forwarded from Area Clerks to Central Office for record purposes were carefully examined. The 52 registrations were analysed thus :—

Rheumatoid arthritis — 13 ; osteo-arthritis — 3 ; pneumoconiosis — 4 ; silicosis — 2 ; disseminated sclerosis — 1 ; pseudo hypertrophic muscular dystrophy — 1 ; hemiplegia — 3 ; paraplegia — 2 ; spinal injuries — 2 ; congenital malformation — 1 ; amputations — 2 ; cerebral thrombosis — 1 ; rodent ulcers — 1 ; thyroid disability — 2 ; emphysema — 1 ; cardiac — 3 ; injuries to limbs — 3 ; spasticity — 1 ; Parkinson's disease — 1 ; rheumatic fever — 1 ; miscellaneous disabilities — 4.

This analysis reveals that registrations are now almost entirely of very severely handicapped persons of whom many will undoubtedly require frequent visitation and the provision of a multiplicity of personal aids to overcome their handicaps. Despite the more exacting standards of registration, I am satisfied that no-one who can benefit from available services and is substantially and permanently handicapped, is excluded from the Register.

Table I in the Appendix gives totals of the three Registers on an area basis and, for purposes of comparison, the figures for the two previous years. Table II shows the age distribution of Generally Handicapped.

In Table IIIA of the Appendix is set out the broad classification of the Register in terms of main disability groups and areas of residence. The disabilities here are classified on lines similar to those used by the Ministry of Labour but a more detailed analysis is employed in Table IIIB.

Establishment of Home Visitors

At the beginning of the period under review the establishment of Home Visitors (including trainees) was 16. During the year, four trainees commenced courses of training and of these, it is hoped that two will qualify in 1960. The other two trainees left the service to get married whilst still undergoing training.

In addition, one post was filled by an applicant with a Social Science Diploma who required instruction in craft work only.

In December, you considered the increased numbers on the Register and in order to reduce the case-loads of Home Visitors to manageable proportions, agreed to increase the establishment by a further three Visitors. As a consequence of this increased establishment and the retirements referred to above, five new trainees will undertake training during the year 1960/61, and it is hoped will have completed their course and be working effectively in the field early in 1961.

Home Visiting Service

An important feature of the welfare services you provide is the visiting of handicapped persons in their homes. This year, 18,150 visits were made, an increase of 1,243 over the previous year. The Table overleaf gives details of case-loads and areas and perhaps gives some slight indication of the full scope and value of the work of the Home Visitors. At its lowest valuation an hour spent with a handicapped old age pensioner who otherwise receives few visitors often has value not demonstrable in statistical form.

“ . . . A high percentage of visits is maintained among the most severely disabled persons, many of whom rarely, if ever, go out. A short chat on their problems or day-to-day events gives them great comfort and these visits are very much appreciated. Close contact is also kept with people who are admitted to hospital . . . ”

(Extract from a report)

Home visits not only help the handicapped person but serve to re-impress on the Visitors themselves a strong sense of the worth of their vocation, as the following report testifies :—

“ . . . One cannot be a Home Visitor for very long before soon becoming aware that the most valuable and worthwhile part of the work concerns the actual visiting of handicapped persons, especially when these persons are confined to the house or to a wheel-chair, or completely bedridden. It is always rewarding to call on somebody who really needs assistance and be able to offer one's services . . . ”

It is particularly encouraging to know that the work of the Visitors is widely appreciated by the handicapped persons and their relatives. The following letter received recently from a relative perhaps demonstrates this relationship :—

“ . . . I have been on holiday in South Wales and, on visiting an old lady who is my wife's aunt, a Miss H. of S., found that after falling in the fire and getting badly burned, she had been left almost unable to move without help and that had to be given by her husband who is also 76. I got in touch with the Welfare Department of your Council and contacted a Mr. E. and I am writing to you to express my deep appreciation of his assistance and kindness. Although receiving a 'phone call from a stranger, he made an immediate visit, contacted the Doctor and also got a chair temporarily from the Health Department.

HOME VISITING SERVICE TO THE HANDICAPPED, 1960

Area to which Home Visitor is officially attached	District	Home Visitor	CASE LOAD		Total Case Load	Responsible for Social/ Handicraft Centre
			Generally Handi- capped	Hard of Hearing		
ABERDARE AND CAERPHILLY	Hirwaun to Abercwmboi	Mr. B. Bond	288	2	290	Aberdare
	Mountain Ash to Abercynon	Miss E. A. Rose (Trainee)	170	—	170	Penrhiwceiber
	Rhymney Valley, Trelewis, Bedlinog, Ystrad Mynach	Mr. K. T. Edwards	183	5	188	Bargoed
	Aber Valley, Caerphilly, Llanbradach, Lower Ystrad Mynach, Tredomen, Nelson and Machen (Glam.)	Mrs. M. J. Sims	171	6	177	Caerphilly
	Llynfi Valley to Aberkenfig/Penyfai	Mr. A. L. Day	181	4	185	Maesteg
BRIDGEND AND SOUTH-EAST GLAMORGAN	Ogmore and Garw Valleys to Tondur	Mr. O. E. L. Davies	223	7	230	Pontycymmer
	Bridgend, Coychurch, Coity, Porthcawl, Nottage, Cefn Cribwr, North/South Cornelly, Kenfig Hill, Pyle	Mr. J. E. F. Owen (Trainee)	172	6	178	Bridgend
	Penarth U.D.C., Barry M.B.C., Dinas Powis	Mrs. J. M. Bennett	238	20	258	Barry, Penarth
	Vale of Glamorgan (Southerndown, Ewenny and Pencoed to Creigiau, Whitchurch and Rhiwbina)	Mr. N. W. Evans	183	11	194	Whitchurch
	Borough of Neath, Clyne, Pontrhydyfen, Tonmawr, Jersey Marine	Mr. J. Morris	237	24	261	Neath
NEATH AND WEST GLAMORGAN	Cwmilnyffell, Pontardawe to Ystalyfera, Cilybebyll, Crynant to Banwen, Glynneath, Resolven, Melincourt, Cwmgwrach, Rhigos	Mr. G. James	190	22	212	Pontardawe
	Gower, Pontardulais, Glais, Cwmgorse, Brynamman, Clydach to Pontardawe Cross.	Mr. R. Ireland (Trainee)	193	7	200	Gorseinon
	Port Talbot Borough and Glyncoerrwg U.D.C., less Tonmawr and Pontrhydyfen	Miss M. Harries	252	34	286	Port Talbot
	Area covered by Pontypridd U.D.C. and Ynysybwl	Miss F. Newman	252	12	264	Pontypridd
	Llantrisant and Llantwit Fardre R.D.C. plus Giltfach Goch (part)	Mr. H. M. Biley	184	6	190	Beddau Tonyrefail
PONTYPRIDD AND RHONDDA	Rhondda Fach	Miss E. Jones	255	—	255	Maerdy
	Treorchy, Cwmpare, Treherbert, Blaenrhondda, Blaencwm	Mr. P. J. Lewis	248	1	249	Treorchy
	Tonypanddy, Clydach Vale, Blaenclwydach, Williamstown, Penygraig, Edmundstown, Trebanog, Porth, Dinas, Trehafod	Miss J. Z. Burr (Trainee)	265	1	266	Porth
	Pentre, Ton Pentre, Gelli, Ystrad, Llwynypia, Trealaw	Mr. D. A. Parry	263	—	263	Trealaw
			4,148	168	4,316	

Area	Centre	Venue	Afternoon	Home Visitor	Average Weekly Attendance	
					1959/60	1958/59
ABERDARE AND CAERPHILLY	Aberdare	St. John Ambulance Hall, Depot Road	Thursday	Mr. B. Bond	32	32
	Penrhiwceiber	Cwmcyon Workmen's Hall	Tuesday	Mr. B. Bond Miss E. A. Rose	20	27
	Caerphilly	Schoolroom, Old National School	Tuesday	Mrs. J. Sims	12	9
	Bargoed	Bargoed Institute and Library	Wednesday	Mr. K. T. Edwards	13	12
	Bridgend	Drill Hall, Derwen Road	Thursday	Mr. O. E. L. Davies Mr. J. E. F. Owen	30	37
BRIDGEND AND SOUTH-EAST GLAMORGAN	Maesteg	St. John Ambulance Hall	Tuesday	Mr. A. L. Day	35	35
	Pontycymmer	53/55 Oxford Street, Pontycymmer	Wednesday	Mr. O. E. L. Davies	37	32
	Barry	Mount Pleasant Baptist Church Hall	Thursday	Mrs. J. M. Bennett	40	41
	Penarth	Tabernacle Baptist Church, Plassey Street	Wednesday	Mrs. J. M. Bennett	19	17
	Whitchurch	Church Parlour, Wesleyan Methodist Church	Friday	Mr. N. W. Evans	15	13
NEATH AND WEST GLAMORGAN	Neath	Moose Hall, Water Street	Wednesday	Mr. J. Morris	42	40
	Port Talbot	Y.M.C.A., Talbot Road	Tuesday	Miss M. Harries	20	23
	Pontardawe	Old People's Welfare Hall, Ynysderw Hall, Pontardawe	Thursday	Mr. G. James	12	11
	Gorseinon	St. Catherine's Church Hall	Friday	Mr. G. James Mr. R. P. Ireland	37	29
	Pontypridd	Holly House, 98 Merthyr Road	Thursday	Miss F. Newman	26	24
PONTYPRIDD AND RHONDDA	Beddau	Cwm and Llantwit Workmen's Hall, Beddau	Wednesday	Mr. H. Biley	32	33
	Trealaw	Maes-yr-Haf Education Settlement	Wednesday	Mr. D. A. Parry	22	28
	Porth	Y.M.C.A., Porth	Thursday	Miss J. Z. Burr	20	24
	Maerdy	Workmen's Hall and Institute	Thursday	Miss E. Jones	30	29
	Treorchy	Church Hall, St. Matthew's Church	Wednesday	Mr. P. J. Lewis	32	39
	Tonyrefail	Social Services Club, The Square	Monday	Mr. H. Biley	*	—

* Commenced 15th August, 1960

The salutary effect on my relative was evident and I came away satisfied that everything possible was being done and that at least the last years of her life would not be spent in obscurity, just looking out on the back wall of a Chapel, without any-one calling to see her. I hope you will not mind my writing, but although we could afford to take care of her, it is a difficult business to uproot someone from their surroundings where they have lived all their lives, but that does not make it easier to leave them to their fate. But now I am sure that her husband will soon regret not having called in the Welfare Department many years ago.

Thanking Mr. E. and through him, your Council, for the great courtesy received,

I remain, Yours sincerely . . . ”

It should not be imagined, however, that the handicapped person is always the passive beneficiary. One Visitor recently reported :—

“ . . . A rather different problem was presented to me during the last quarter — instead of wanting to be helped, Miss H. of B. wanted to help other people. She is a young girl in her thirties suffering from epilepsy. Between her attacks, she keeps quite fit, and she felt she would be making better use of her time if she did some voluntary work. I contacted the W.V.S. and they were very pleased to hear about her. Miss H. now attends very week and has made herself very useful doing sewing for them . . . ”

Sometimes the Home Visitor's work involves most complex problems; at other times the problem may be a simple one but nevertheless its solution is of great practical and psychological benefit to the handicapped person. This is exemplified by the following extract from a quarterly report submitted by the Area Clerk :—

“ . . . During the period under review 31 applications were made on behalf of registered handicapped persons for repayment of Post War Credits, and it is pleasing to note that full settlement has been received in every case, resulting in the Income Tax Department repaying a total sum of nearly £400. This work involved personal visits to the local Income Tax Offices, the Area Offices of the National Assistance Board and to Offices of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance . . . ”

The variety of problems that the work presents can be seen in this report from a Home Visitor—

“ . . . A wireless set from the “ Wireless for the Bedridden ” Society was granted to a very deserving bedridden case.

Tickets for “ The Rest,” Porthcawl, were obtained for a handicapped person suffering from epilepsy.

‘ Sobo ’ rubber bed slabs were obtained for a bedridden case suffering from the consequences of an accident sustained whilst playing football.

Clothing grant of £4 received from National Assistance Board by a handicapped person as a result of our recommendation.

Case assisted to obtain repayment of Post War Credits.

Arrangements were made for domiciliary visit by local Optician to home-bound handicapped person (both legs amputated). Also, at our suggestion, the local Medical Practitioner arranged for a Hospital Consultant to visit her at home, with a view to providing an invalid wheel-chair . . . ”

The last two extracts illustrate quite clearly how Visitors must be fully cognizant of all the benefits provided by the various social agencies so that the handicapped persons can benefit from available services.

Social/Handicraft Centres for the Handicapped

There have been again this year 20 Social/Handicraft Centres in operation in the County and details of the Centres, average weekly attendances etc. shown in comparison with the previous year, are given on page 43.

It is your practice to encourage handicapped persons to attend Social/Handicraft Centres by meeting the cost of travelling expenses to and from Centres. This year, the expenses of an additional 100 persons were approved, including those of two persons who travel by motor-propelled carriages. In one instance of exceptional difficulty, the expenses of an escort were also authorised. A total of £1,003 18s. 1d. was spent on this service during the year.

The Centres are far more than a diversion for the members. By participating in various crafts and occupations, and perceiving how other handicapped persons play an active part in the activities, many handicapped persons are assisted in developing confidence. The range of activities pursued by many of the Centres is illustrated by the following report :—

“ . . . The Savings Club continues very steadily and continually proves its value and assistance to members.

Magazines, periodicals and clothing have been supplied constantly and distributed to members of the Centre, and those who do not attend.

Craftwork is on the increase, whilst a few of the male members enjoy the card games provided.

The members engaged on craft work number as follows :—

- One on artificial flower making
- One on crochet work
- One on jewellery making
- Five on embroidery
- Two on knitting
- One on Knitmaster loom
- Two on felt toy making
- Four on rug-making
- Five on sewing . . . ”

Centre work is particularly valuable when it takes the form of a collective endeavour for some beneficial purpose.

This is particularly well exemplified by the following report :—

“ The outstanding event in the B. Social/Handicraft Centre this quarter has been the Sale of Work held on 4th December. After months of preparation the members were able to see the results of their labours and all joined in readily to make the day a big success. The Sale was opened by the Mayor, who was able to stay for a short while, and with the Mayoress toured the various stalls commenting on the originality and high standard of the workmanship displayed. There was enough profit from the Sale to ensure that the Centre will have enough money to purchase handicraft materials during the coming year, and also be able to have a few private treats . . . ”

Inter-Centre Visits

This activity continues to gain popularity and during the year, 20 visits were made. These visits have proved invaluable in spreading new ideas.

Social Amenities

This year, 17 Summer Outings were arranged for handicapped and deaf persons who attend Social/Handicraft Centres, at a total cost of £689. Outings were arranged to Langland Bay, Tenby, Llandrindod Wells, Aberystwyth, Cheltenham, Oystermouth and Gloucester. Altogether 885 persons, including escorts, travelled on the outings, enjoying themselves thoroughly, and expressed to the County Council much appreciation.

Sixteen parties were arranged at Christmas in various parts of the administrative county and 950 persons took part in the festivities, an increase of 120 over the previous year. During the festive season your decision to send a Christmas Greeting card to all registered handicapped persons was much appreciated.

The Neath and Porthcawl Round Table Clubs co-operated in arranging a week's caravan holiday for two handicapped persons and their families. The Neath Club provided transport and gave to each family £5 pocket money. The Porthcawl Club made available a caravan, arranged a sight-seeing tour and presented provisions to the value of 30/- to each family. Again this year, Neath Round Table delivered Christmas gift parcels of provisions to handicapped persons on the County Register and on your behalf, I sent letters of thanks for these acts of kindness.

Holidays for Handicapped Persons

Altogether, 24 persons, including three married couples, were assisted to go on holiday this year at a cost to the County Council of £105 11s. 0d. Most of the applications granted were for travelling expenses only, but in six cases assistance was also given in meeting the cost of accommodation. In several instances, where otherwise the handicapped person would have been unable to travel, escorts were provided for the journey.

Applications for holiday assistance are decided in accordance with your general policy that each one must be dealt with on its merits, bearing in mind the severity of the disability of the handicapped person, his economic circumstances and supporting medical evidence.

Wireless for the Bedridden Society

The Society arranged for the installation of nine sets during the period under review and two were later exchanged for Radio Relay installations. In addition, the Society provided one receiving licence. The Authority acts as Agent for the Society and it gives me great pleasure to place on record our cordial relations.

Handicrafts

I am pleased to report that handicrafts continued to attract the interest of handicapped persons, both at home and at the Centres. Sales of materials by the Department during the year amounted to £467. The free initial issue of materials has continued and rug-making still holds predominant place. The following information of free initial issues gives an indication of the popularity of the various crafts for beginners and is compared with issues in previous years :—

Free Initial Issues for the year ended 31st March—

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Rug-making	205	79	86	83	87
Wood Assembly	18	189	81	64	51
Leatherwork	29	12	20	23	22
Embroidery	23	16	19	19	29
Woodwork	8	3	12	—	5
Jewellery	22	4	11	3	1
Soft Toys	49	12	4	6	15
Weaving Looms	3	3	2	—	—
Painting Sets	—	—	1	3	1
Canework	—	—	1	—	—
Knitting Materials	—	—	1	—	—
	357	318	238	201	211

An important developing feature of handicraft work is the growing diversification of crafts practised by handicapped persons. The following report submitted by one of your Technical Assistants is interesting in this respect :—

“ . . . During the past two years the amount of craft work done in Centres throughout the County has increased considerably and so has the variety of work done. Two years ago, apart from one or two outstanding Centres, it was unusual to see any crafts other than those originally sponsored by Central Office. Now these crafts have faded into the background as far as the Centres are concerned and the Home Visitors are to be congratulated on the variety of work done, the ingenuity and inventiveness shown in this work and particularly on the high standard of work to be seen in the completed articles . . . ”

A most pleasing example of co-operation between a Centre and home-bound handicapped persons is illustrated in the following report by one of the Technical Assistants :—

“ . . . At P. recently, I saw about 16 women working almost a conveyor belt system. The first group were cutting out pillow cases, the next group was stitching, using two machines belonging to members and brought to the Centre weekly by the Home Visitor, and the third group was pressing transfers on to these pillow cases. I was very interested to learn that a number of these were to go to the home-bound handicapped persons for embroidery and finishing off . . . ”

The pastime skills acquired or developed in the Centres often provide a useful diversion for handicapped persons during periods when they are confined to home or hospital. Thus a report states :—

“ . . . Miss W. of B. is at present in hospital, receiving treatment for rheumatoid arthritis. Whilst there, she has crocheted the prettiest baby coats which she put on display at the local Flower Show and won a special award . . . ”

Another Visitor reports :—

“ . . . Embroidery, rug-making, artificial flower making and leatherwork is being done in the homes of four persons who do not normally attend the Social/Handicraft Centre . . . ”

The effort involved in handicrafts is undoubtedly of therapeutic value and the standard of achievement is often considerably high, viz :—

“ . . . Mrs. G. of B. is one of the most active workers for the Sale of Work there. She is always full of bright ideas and often has some unusual ways of using felt and foam rubber. Mrs. M. is similarly gifted — she usually makes the most dainty felt Bambis for the Sale, and this year she is going to try making Pandas. The articles she makes are small, but the sewing on them is always perfect, although her hands are badly crippled with arthritis . . . ”

Aids to Overcome Handicaps

An additional 24 Cee Vee Long Reachers were purchased during the year, making a total of 125 now issued on loan. Examples abound of the usefulness of these aids and the following report is not an isolated illustration :—

“ . . . Mrs. H. of P. who is badly crippled with arthritis, lives with her daughter but is left alone for long periods as her daughter is out at work all day. Naturally, if she dropped anything, it had to remain where it was until someone called to see her. Also, when it became dark, she had no means of putting on the light. Now she can retrieve dropped articles by means of her long reacher, and put on the light with her ‘ artificial hand ’ as she calls it . . . ”

The Department continues to supply tables of the cantilever type which are of considerable assistance to seriously handicapped persons confined to bed or a chair. Eight were issued during the year.

It is a source of great pride, however, that by far the largest part of the aids are produced at the Aids Department of your Workshop at Treforest. The following Table shows the extent of production, but figures alone cannot convey the pleasure and independence that these aids bring to the handicapped persons.

Aids Manufactured during the year ended 31st March, 1960.

(a)	Dressing Aids	..	..	..	..	..	44
(b)	Personal Aids	..	..	..	..	..	24
(c)	Feedings Aids	..	..	..	..	..	59
(d)	Craft Aids	..	..	..	..	..	10
(e)	Domestic Aids	..	..	..	..	..	17
(f)	Reaching Aids	..	..	..	..	..	73
(g)	Rests	..	..	..	..	..	11
(h)	Tables (Welfare Services)	..	..	..	..	..	45
(i)	Writing Aids	..	..	..	..	..	7
(j)	Steps, ramps, platforms	..	..	..	..	..	7
(k)	Domestic trolleys	..	..	..	..	..	2
(l)	Shoe-lift/Washing Aids	..	..	..	..	..	50
(m)	Modifications	..	..	..	..	..	20
(n)	Repairs	..	..	..	..	..	16
(o)	Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	40
							425

In addition, 47 aids were manufactured for the purpose of Demonstrations given by the Technical Assistant, making a total number of aids in the demonstration kit 54.

Despite a marked increase in the number of aids produced, output has fallen behind demand and at the end of the period under review, there was a substantial number of aids or gadgets awaiting manufacture. At the time of writing this Report the position is, however, being reviewed by your Committee and it is hoped that before long the Department will be able to meet the demand in this important field of welfare. The aids are undoubtedly of great value and comfort to handicapped persons suffering from widely different disabilities. The following report from a Home Visitor shows clearly how the aids meet a wide variety of needs and bring great benefit to the handicapped persons :—

“ . . . A person suffering from hemiplegia of the right side was granted a darning/embroidery aid and is making good use of it.

A wooden platform and ramp was provided for a person suffering from chronic arthritis to enable her to get out of doors in her wheel chair. W.S. table given to a young man suffering from congenital malformation of arms and legs. Highly delighted with this.

Person with both legs amputated above knee supplied with ramp and now able to gain easy access from house to garden. This has indeed proved a great benefit to the handicapped person.



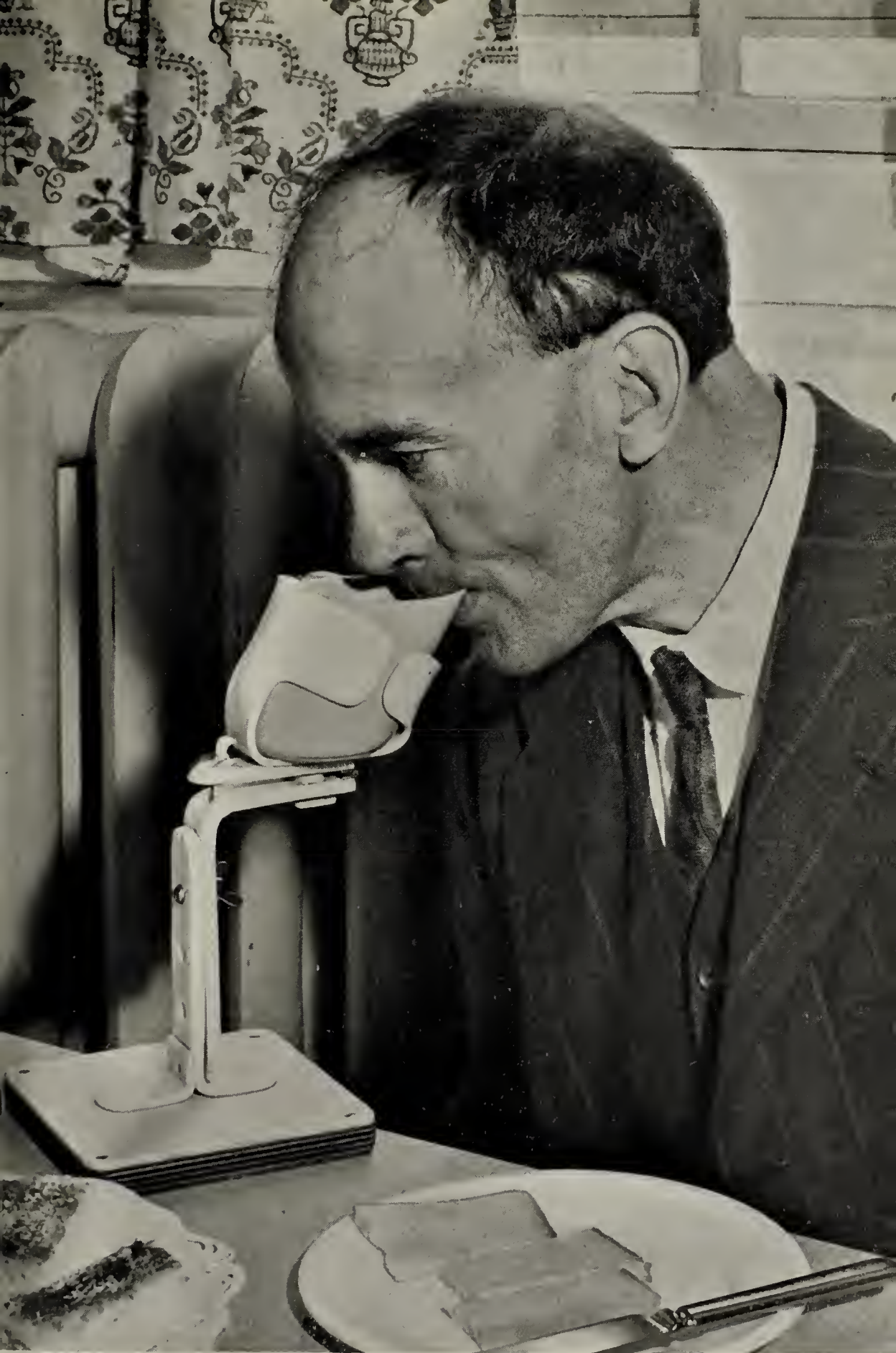
HANDICRAFTS IN PROGRESS



AIDS DEPARTMENT, COUNTY WORKSHOPS. CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS



AIDS DEPARTMENT, COUNTY WORKSHOPS. CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS



DRINKING AID IN USE





AIDS IN USE

Person living alone unable to bend because of disability, given a Cee Vee Reacher. Profuse thanks for this aid.

Man bedridden after undergoing several operations given W.S. table. Makes daily use of this and expresses sincere thanks.

Aged couple residing alone. Wife unable to carry out all household duties and is, therefore, dependent upon friends and neighbours for assistance. Has now been afforded a Cee Vee Reacher and W.S. trolley/walking aid. Thrilled with these aids and expresses her unbounded thanks to the Welfare Services Committee . . . ”

Adaptations to the Homes of Handicapped Persons

This work, closely allied to that of providing personal aids to overcome handicaps, aims at providing a greater measure of comfort and convenience to handicapped persons in their homes. During the course of the year, approval was given to works of adaptation in eleven instances, making a total of 53 since 1954.

Details of the applications are given opposite in some detail. They give an indication of the type of adaptations considered appropriate.

The new-found sense of confidence and independence that these adaptations impart to the handicapped persons is clearly exemplified in the following letter—

“ . . . Since the adaptation, i.e. the fixing of bars from the existing ramp through the garden to the front door, has been completed. I have become quite independent of other people's help. It is now possible for me to get down to the road and back up to the house quite easily without help from anyone.

I am very delighted and grateful and would like to thank all who have made it possible again for this work to be carried out.

I would like also to thank the Welfare Officers past and present who have often helped to carry me down the road.

Yours gratefully,
(Sgd.) A.L.

Employment of Handicapped Persons

Once again I would like to pay tribute to the harmonious relationships existing between your Home Visitors and the Disablement Resettlement Service of the Ministry of Labour and the County Youth Employment Service.

Many registered handicapped persons have no need of assistance from Home Visitors in obtaining employment as they are capable of employment in “ open ” or normal conditions.

There are still some cases, however, where the advice and assistance of the Home Visitor can be instrumental in placing the handicapped person in suitable employment. Here I would like to quote from a report of one of the Home Visitors which show how persistent advocacy on behalf of the handicapped person can bear fruit.

“ . . . Mr. M. a registered handicapped person, had been registered under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944. He had previously been rejected by the Disabled Persons Employment

ADAPTATIONS TO HOMES OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS

Persons Assisted	Disability	Nature of Adaptations	Cost	Remarks
Miss A.	Rheumatoid Arthritis	Provision of path across front garden	£ s. d. 23 12 0	County Council met whole of cost.
Mrs. B.	Rheumatoid Arthritis	Provision of handrail from backyard to W.C.	39 17 0	County Council met whole of cost.
Miss C.	Paralysis of both legs	Adaptations to avoid the need for cooking in living room and also to enable her to reach outside W.C.	33 0 0	County Council met whole of cost.
Mr. D.	Rheumatoid Arthritis	Provision of handrails on stairs	7 12 0	County Council met 50% of cost, Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation contributed the other half.
Mrs. E.	Rheumatoid Arthritis	Provision of handrails on stairs	5 0 0	County Council met whole of cost.
Mr. F.	Rheumatoid Arthritis	Alterations including provision of handrail to enable him to reach front garden entrance and W.C.	57 4 0	Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation made grant of £25. County Council met balance.
Mr. G.	Paraplegia	Adaptations to enable him to enter and leave his home more easily. (1) Provision of ramp between house and garage. (2) Alterations to dividing wall between bathroom/bedroom including forming two new doorways. (3) Provision of handrail in W.C. and self-lifting hoist chain over bath.	75 0 0	Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation made grant of £37.10.0. County Council made grant of £17.10.0. Applicant met balance of £20.
Mr. H.	Paraplegia	Provision of sloping garden path to enable him to reach street	60 10 0	Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation made grant of £20. Applicant paid £12. 3s. 0d. County Council met balance of cost.
Mr. I.	Spondylitis and chronic Bronchitis	Provision of power point in garage to charge invalid car batteries.	12 0 0	County Council met whole of cost.
Mr. J.	Left Hemiplegia and Blind	Provisions of handrail on stairs	5 10 0	Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation made grant of £2. 15s. 0d. County Council contributed £2 15s. 0d.
Mr. K.	Rheumatoid Arthritis	Provision of W.C. nearer the house	60 0 0	Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation made grant of £27 10s. 0d. County Council met balance of £32.10.0
			£379 5 0	



ADAPTATIONS : TO HOMES



ADAPTATIONS : CONCRETE RAMP AND GUARDRAIL

Committee, being considered unsuitable to follow any form of employment — even under ‘sheltered’ conditions. It was contended that Mr. M. was capable of following ‘sheltered’ employment and, following an appeal, he was registered for a period of three years under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944.

Mr. M. attended a three weeks’ Rehabilitation Course at the Ministry of Labour Training Centre, Cardiff, in July 1958. On 13th October, 1959, he was interviewed by the Ministry of Labour Disabled Persons Employment Panel, and he commenced work as a Trainee Paint Sprayer at Remploy Limited, Trading Estate, Bridgend, on the 19th October, 1959, and is making satisfactory progress in his work . . . ”

Sighted Disabled Journeymen/Women

In addition to the efforts made by Home Visitors to place disabled persons in employment, no less than fourteen sighted but otherwise severely disabled persons are now employed at the County Workshops. Each person would find extreme difficulty in securing employment in open conditions but nevertheless is well suited to employment at your Workshops.

The Table on opposite page gives an indication of the type of work undertaken at the Workshops by the sighted disabled.

2. WELFARE OF THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

I am pleased to report that the Department’s work in this field of welfare has continued satisfactorily and that there is a most effective liaison between your specialist Officers and the County Youth Employment Service, the Disablement Resettlement Officers of the Ministry of Labour, various other Ministries, Hospital Almoners and other organisations.

As I have stressed in previous reports, the best way of meeting the real needs of the deaf is to ensure that they receive the largest possible amount of help to participate in normal hearing society. Here the Home Visiting Staff has a crucial and difficult part to play.

For in encouraging their charges to play a more active part in the community, they must always guard against infringing individual rights and privacy. This calls for a patient and understanding approach and a constant awareness of the psychological effects of deafness. I am satisfied, however, that the task is being effectively carried out.

Often the psychological and family problems of a hard of hearing person can be more involved and difficult than those of a person born deaf. This is well illustrated by the following report from the Technical Assistant for the Deaf :—

“ . . . Mr. A., a registered hard of hearing person with no useful hearing for speech was legally separated from his wife when his two daughters, now aged 15 and 12, were quite young.

SIGHTED DISABLED JOURNEYMEN/WOMEN

Department	Commenced	Disabilities	Outline of Duties
Knitting — Treforest (5)	9th June, 1955	Paralysis	Finishing of Knitted Garments
	9th June, 1955	Deafness	Finishing of Garments
	12th February, 1959	Neurosis	Finishing of Garments
	6th July, 1959	Anxiety Neurosis	Finishing of Garments
	10th March, 1958	Valvular Disease of the Heart	Finishing in Knitting Department.
Mat — Llwynypia (1)	13th December, 1954	Pneumoconiosis	Finishing and Trimming of Mats
Brush — Llwynypia (5)	20th May, 1959	Nervous Debility	Brush Journeymen. Their work can be divided into two categories (a) Bass work (heavy brooms), and (b). Bristle and hair work (clothes brushes, hearth brushes, etc.) They sit around a pan of warm pitch. Here the bristles or bass are dipped into the warm pitch and fitted into the stock or wooden head of the brush until it is completed.
	17th November, 1958	Thrombo-Phlebitis	
	17th November, 1958	Arthritis	
	17th November, 1958	Cardiac Debility	
	1st January, 1957	Partially Sighted and Mentally Backward.	
Basket — Treforest (1)	25th May, 1959	Partially Sighted. No deterioration of vision. Mentally backward.	Basket Journeyman : Makes laundry baskets, pigeon baskets shopping baskets, etc.
Aids — Treforest (2)	9th December, 1957	Quiescent Tuberculosis	Aids — these two men use their knowledge of working in plastic, metal and wood to construct aids to enable severely handicapped persons to overcome their disabilities.
	23rd November, 1959	Dislocated left hip	

Mr. A. has persisted in seeing his children regularly against considerable opposition although the meetings must often have caused agony for parent and children as writing is his only real method of communication. He has never learned to lip read, one reason being that his family difficulties have undermined all confidence. Because of the difficulty in communication, and the estrangement of their parents, the children found their father's deafness strange and often frightening ; the relationship between father and daughters has

consequently never been spontaneous and easy. Now that the children are getting older he desperately needs to obtain their respect if not their affection and establish himself as a normal person in their eyes. He has been helped in this by the Home Visitor who has encouraged him to bring the children to visit him in his Cardiff flat. These visits have shown the children that normal intelligent persons do not necessarily look upon their father as an oddity but accept him as one of themselves.

Mr. A. is a member of our T. Centre and here he has his only friends. At the onset of his deafness he gave up active membership of various political and philosophical groups because of his difficulty in communication, and, as a result he suffers greatly from the lack of stimulation provided by intelligent conversation. Unfortunately, of his deaf friends, only Mr. D. the Home Visitor, is able to provide the intelligent conversation he craves.

Even reading does not provide the pleasure for him it once did. ' You would think that I would enjoy reading far more now that I am deaf and live alone, but I've discovered that a large part of the enjoyment and appreciation of a book is being able to discuss it with someone. There is no-one to whom I can even say ' Have you read this ? ' . . . '

Although not all cases present the same complicated pattern, the Home Visitor is called in to assist in many varying types of cases, as the following reports show :—

“ . . . Three visits were made during the month to hospital hearing aid clinics at Cardiff and Pontypridd on behalf of hard of hearing cases . . . ”

Two special visits were made in the Neath area to the home of a young deaf woman whose parents wish to move nearer Neath to enable her to attend the Deaf Centre at Briton Ferry more easily, and to see the new deaf friends she has made there more often. These visits were followed by a visit to the Neath Rural District Council Housing Manager . . . ”

“ A young deaf woman recently married came to see me privately to talk about some of her difficulties. I believe I succeeded in convincing her that none of the problems was really serious and we both agreed that if a change of employment could be obtained for her husband, life would be much easier and happier for both of them. With the help of the local Disablement Resettlement Officer it is hoped to fit this young deaf man into more congenial employment in the near future . . . ”

“ When I was in the Caerphilly Centre, I was asked by a deaf person in the Bargoed area to make a special visit to his home the next morning to help him sort out a family row. I visited his home as arranged, but found no-one at home and no evidence of the broken door panel which he told me had been smashed by his brother with a fireman's axe ! . . . ”

Table IV in the Appendix shows the division of responsibility between your Home Visitors and other relevant details. The number of visits made by the Deaf Visitors during the year totalled 2,294 as compared with 2,283 and 1,803 in the two previous years.

Summer Outings and Christmas Parties

On the occasion of their annual summer outing, 38 members of the Aberdare and Briton Ferry Centres had a most pleasant day at Tenby. Sixty-two persons from the Treorchy and Briton Ferry Centres were joined by 32 members of the Barry Hard of Hearing Centre for another enjoyable day spent at Langland Bay.

The Christmas parties were a marked success. One hundred and sixteen deaf persons attended the parties held at Cafe Mona, Aberdare, and St. Matthew's Church Hall, Treorchy. In addition, a party at St. Mary's Church Hall, Barry was attended by 39 members of the Barry Hard of Hearing Centre.

Centres for the Deaf

Table V on page 90 gives particulars of the Centres for the Deaf. It will be noted that the weekly meetings are held during the evenings, an arrangement which caters for members who are in employment during the day.

In last year's Report I mentioned that the progress of the newly-opened Hard of Hearing Centre at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Cadoxton, Barry, was being watched with interest. I am now pleased to report that the venture is a success and the frequency of the meetings has been increased from a fortnightly to a weekly basis.

The value of the Centres to the members cannot be over-rated and the following extract from a Report of the Technical Assistant demonstrates how they have become a hive of activity and diversion where the deaf spend many happy hours :—

“ Mr. D. (the Home Visitor) has a dynamic personality and its imprint is seen in the extra-mural activities at T. and C. which he voluntarily supervises — weekend rambles and picnics and football matches. He hopes next year that a group of the younger deaf will join him in a pony-trekking holiday.

There is never a dull or silent moment at these two Centres. Table tennis, darts, draughts and dominoes all go on simultaneously, while the younger children of deaf parents play happily but noisily on the floor and some younger teenagers practise complicated dance sequences in a far corner. Amongst all this gaiety — and, of course, quite oblivious of the noise — the few keen chess players concentrate over their chess boards, and the older women gossip happily over the week's events, quite undisturbed. For the hearing person, it is anything but a ‘ silent world.’ ”

It will be noted from Table V in the Appendix that there has been a slight reduction in the average attendance at the Centres. Whilst it is a matter of some regret when even a few deaf persons fail to take advantage of Centre facilities, their absence is often an unconscious tribute to the good work of the Centres in developing contacts and friendships. This is clearly shown in this report from a Home Visitor of the Deaf :—

“ Many new friendships have been made by members who attend the Centre, and sometimes friendships have arisen between members of different Centres through the medium of inter-centre visits. Most deaf persons, of course, were acquainted with each other at school, but there are always those who went to different schools and have drifted apart after school days are over.

These attachments are very gratifying to note, but sometimes they are a loss to the Centre since these people go out together and visit each other in their homes instead of going to the Centre. It is not, however, a matter for complaint, since one of the aims of the Centre is being fulfilled.”

WELFARE OF THE BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED

The most notable feature in blind welfare over recent years has been the increasing proportion of the blind who are also aged. The number of old people in the community in both absolute and relative terms is continually growing and assumes great importance when arrangements for the welfare of the blind are to be decided.

In my last Report, I referred to the fact that the complex in modern society of old age and blindness combined is not yet fully understood and suggested that its solution can be worked out only through the trials and errors of research and the application of good welfare administration. In this connection it is interesting to note that the Younghusband Report has recommended a "variety of experiences" in widening the scope of the home teacher and of relating his work more closely to the services for other handicapped persons.

Registration

The Registers and detailed records of Blind and Partially Sighted persons at County Hall and the Area Offices form a basis on which your Scheme of Welfare Services operates. On 31st March, 1960, there were 2,139 blind persons and 553 partially sighted persons on the respective Registers. Tables VI and XII in the Appendix to this Report analyse these figures into age groups, sex, etc., similar to that submitted to the Ministry of Health each year.

The Table overleaf shows the increase in the numbers registered as blind and partially sighted over the past ten years.

From the Table will be noted the comparatively steep increase in the number of newly registered Blind Persons during the year, in fact the second highest annual increase in the Administrative County since the passing of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

The net increase of 71 in the number of persons registered as partially sighted is notable, being almost double that of last year. Some years ago, the trend of net increase gave the impression that equilibrium might have been reached, with new registrations being offset by those removed owing to death or transfer to the Blind Register. This present trend, however, suggests that the Partially Sighted Register may continue to grow substantially.

The numbers of blind and partially sighted persons added to the Registers in the period under review are found in Tables VII and XIII in the Appendix analysed into the age groups for each.

It will be observed from Table VII that a majority of the 354 blind persons registered for the first time are aged 70 years or over and, in fact, comprise 70% of the new registrations. This compares with 71%, 71%, and 69% for the previous three years. During the last three years the proportion of newly registered blind persons over 80 years of age reached approximately one-third.

**REGISTERS OF BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS
TREND OF REGISTRATIONS**

Date	Number of Blind Persons on Register	Net Increase over previous Year	Number of Partially Sighted Persons on Register	Net Increase over previous Year
31st March, 1951	1,551	45	73	28
31st March, 1952	1,591	40	136	63
31st March, 1953	1,639	48	281	145
31st March, 1954	1,690	51	334	53
31st March, 1955	1,726	36	376	42
31st March, 1956	1,791	65	421	45
31st March, 1957	1,907	116	432	11
31st March, 1958	1,974	67	443	11
31st March, 1959	2,045	71	482	39
31st March, 1960	2,139	94	553	71

The Table on page 67 illustrates that the persons represented in the Registers continually change through additions and deductions. The total number of Blind and Partially Sighted persons on the Registers, however, varies from year to year only to the extent of the net increases shown.

Notifications of suspected blindness are referred to the County Medical Officer, who arranges for examinations by qualified members of his staff. The results of the examinations for the year ended 31st March are shown on page 68.

Blind Register — General

The administrative work undertaken by the County Medical Officer as School Medical Officer in relation to the education of blind children is given in Table X.

Details regarding blind persons over the age of 16 who are not normally domiciled at home are given in Table XI. Fifty-seven blind persons are resident in Homes administered by the Glamorgan Authority, this being one less than last year, and eleven persons are in specialised Homes for the Blind. Nineteen persons are in mental hospitals or mental deficiency institutions and twenty-eight in the chronic sick wards of hospitals.

THE COUNTY REGISTER OF BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS

ADDITIONS AND DEDUCTIONS

BLIND		PARTIALLY SIGHTED	
The total number of cases on the Register at 31st March, 1959, was		The total number of cases on the Register at 31st March, 1959, were :	
During the year there were :		During the year there were :	
ADDITIONS		ADDITIONS	
As a result of Ophthalmic Examinations ..	280	As a result of Ophthalmic Examinations ..	147
Persons moving into the County area ..	21	Persons Moving into the County area ..	6
"Not Blind" cases found to be Blind on re-examination	9	"Not Blind" cases found to be partially sighted on re-examination	10
Partially Sighted cases found to be blind on re-examination	66	Blind cases found to be partially sighted on re-examination	6
	— 376		— 169
DEDUCTIONS		DEDUCTIONS	
Blind Persons deceased	252	Partially Sighted persons deceased	26
Left County area	20	Left County area	7
Not blind on re-examination	5	Not partially sighted on re-examination	1
Partially sighted on re-examination	5	Blind on re-examination	64
	— 282		— 98
Giving a Net increase of	94	Giving a Net Increase of	71
Total number of cases on the Register at 31st March, 1960		Total number of cases on the Register at 31st March, 1960	
2,139		553	

SOURCES AND RESULTS OF NOTIFICATIONS OF SUSPECTED BLINDNESS

Notification from	Total	Result of Examination		
		Blind	Partially Sighted	Not Blind
National Assistance Board	201	124	60	17
Staff of Welfare Services Department	154	83	49	22
Person affected or near relative	11	7	3	1
Medical Practitioner (including County Medical Officer)	34	16	15	3
Voluntary Agencies	10	5	2	3
Miscellaneous	8	4	2	2
Persons examined in year ended 31st March, 1960	418	*239	131	48
Corresponding data relating to year ending 31st March, 1959	505	324	121	60

*Excludes 66 Partially Sighted Persons found to be Blind on re-examination.

In addition to the disability of blindness, 546 of the registered blind persons have other disabilities. Of these, 291 are physically defective and 37 are mentally disordered. Also included in the Register are the names of 21 deaf/blind persons, 156 persons who are hard of hearing and 41 with multiple disabilities. Most of these severely handicapped persons are confined to home, and receive special care and attention from your Home Teachers.

Partially Sighted Register — General

The Ministry of Health require this Register to be kept in the following form :—

	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60
Persons near and prospectively blind (aged 16 and over) ..	160	154	180	186
Persons mainly industrially handicapped and in respect of whom there is not likely to be any deterioration of vision (aged 16 and over)	41	43	59	105
Persons requiring observation only (aged 16 and over) ..	201	218	216	233
Children aged 5 and under 16 ..	28	25	23	26
Children aged 16 and over still at school	2	3	4	3
	432	443	482	553

3. WELFARE OF THE BLIND

Home Teaching Service

In my last Report, I referred to the fact that four trainee officers were appointed because of the absence of a satisfactory response to advertisements for qualified Home Teachers. I am pleased to say that the training programme is proceeding satisfactorily.

Altogether 13,696 visits were made by the Teaching Staff (whose establishment remained at 14) during the year as compared with 12,190 and 11,493 during the two previous years.

The Home Teaching Service continues to justify the trust placed in it in caring for the blind and partially sighted persons in the County. The Home Teacher, to discharge his multifarious duties, must have the qualities of tact, understanding and sympathy, a large measure of resourcefulness and an encyclopaedic knowledge of the statutory, voluntary and unofficial bodies whose aid can be enlisted in helping to ease the path of the blind persons. This is well exemplified in the following report of one of the Teachers :—

“ . . . A Blind Person, suffering from arthritis which badly cripples him and also from a hernia. Doctor had made application for patient to enter hospital for hernia removal months ago. The Secretary of the Hospital was visited several times and the need was stressed for this person to be operated upon as he was in great pain and also had other disabilities.”

“ . . . Blind Person complained of draining boards in her kitchen. They were rotten and water seeped into cupboards underneath causing a nasty smell and was most unhygienic. Several letters were written to the landlord and new draining boards have been installed in the kitchen.”

“ . . . Aged blind person living alone on top of mountain. Is extremely lonely as her only neighbour is out at work all day. Refused to have a Home Help and has no desire to enter an Aged Persons Bungalow near to other blind persons and friends. The local committee, which has in the past taken an interest in blind persons, has been contacted and asked to help.”

“ . . . Elderly blind lady, whose 90th birthday was due, was most anxious that her birthday should be mentioned on the radio. Contacted the B.B.C. and congratulations were made on the programme ‘ Aelwyd-y-Bryn ’ on the evening following her birthday.”

“ . . . Mother of blind child in great difficulties about taking her daughter out for a walk every day as she had another young child of two years. The W.V.S. was approached and they have arranged for persons to take them out.”

The Table on page 70, I am sorry to say, shows an increase in the case-loads of all, except one, of the Home Teachers ; this has inevitably resulted in a less frequent visitation cycle, which is now about every six

HOME TEACHING SERVICE TO THE BLIND, 1960

Area to which Home Teacher is officially attached	District	Home Teacher	Case Load			Total Case Load		Responsible for Social/Handicraft Centre
			Registered Blind Persons	Registered Partially Sighted Persons		1959-60	1958-59	
ABERDARE, CAERPHILLY AND GELLIGAER	Hirwaun to Abercwmboi	Mr. T. J. John	183	46		229	167	Aberdare
	Rhymney Valley, Aber Valley, Caerphilly	Miss M. Monk	158	37		195	167	Bargoed, Caerphilly
	Mountain Ash area to Abercynon, Bedlinog, Nelson, Ystrad Mynach, Llanbradach	Mrs. S. E. Morgan (Trainee)	132	30		162	147	Mountain Ash
BRIDGEND AND SOUTH-EAST GLAMORGAN	Llynfi Valley, Porthcawl, Pyle, Kenfig, Cefn Cribbwr, Ewenny, Southerndown and Ogmore	Miss M. Davies	117	46		163	168	Maesteg
	Ogmore and Garw Valleys, Bridgend, Pencoed, Coychurch and Llanharry	Miss W. M. Lewis	154	33		187	168	Bridgend
	Barry, Penarth, Whitechurch, Radyr, Cowbridge and Llantwit Major	Miss C. Griffiths (Trainee)	222	46		268	252	Barry, Penarth and Whitechurch
NEATH AND WEST GLAMORGAN	Vale of Neath, Dulais Valley, Swansea Valley except Clydach, Craigcfeinparc, Glais and Trebanos	Miss L. Bevan	162	54		216	200	Resolven Pontardawe
	Port Talbot and Afan Valley	Miss C. Edwards	166	45		211	199	Port Talbot
	West Glamorgan Area less Swansea Area north of Clydach	Mr. S. James	142	48		190	179	Gorseinon
PONTYPRIDD AND RHONDDA	Borough of Neath, Skewen, Briton Ferry	Miss G. Macdonald	142	52		194	195	Neath
	Pontypridd area (Pontyclun to Ynysybwl)	Mr. R. Matthews	146	36		182	162	Pontypridd Social Centre & Pontypridd Handicraft Centre
	Trehafod, Porth, Cymmer, Ynysfhir, Pontygwaith, Tylorstown Blaenllechau, Ferndale, Maerdy, Dinas	Miss M. Hillman	130	22		152	131	Porth
	Blaenrhondda, Blaencwm, Treherbert, Treorchy, Cwmparc, Pentre, Ystrad, Gelli, Llwynypia	Mr. G. N. M. White (Trainee)	163	33		196	245	Llwynypia
	Blaenclydach, Clydach Vale, Treallaw, Tonypandy, Penygraig, Trebanog, Giffach Goch, Evanstown, Tonyrefail	Mr. D. C. G. Davies	122	25		147	147	Llwynypia
			2,139	553		2,692	2,527	

TABLE 13.

Premature Babies born in the Division, showing Survival, Feeding, etc.

Sex	Date of Birth	Birth Weight lb. ozs	Transferred to Institution	A = Artificially Fed B = Breast Fed	Duration of Pregnancy	Date of Death	Age at Death	Cause of Death	Complications during Pregnancy
INSTITUTIONAL BIRTHS									
F	10/1/50	5 7	—	A	39 weeks	—	—	—	—
F	11/1/50	5 8	—	B	25 weeks	—	—	—	—
F	13/1/50	5 6	—	B	39 weeks	—	—	—	—
M	21/1/50	3 14	—	B	37 weeks	—	—	—	—
F	3/3/50	4 3	—	B 1½	40 weeks	—	—	—	—
M	10/3/50	4 7	—	B	40 weeks	—	—	—	—
F	12/3/50	5 5	—	B	40 weeks	—	—	—	—
F	31/3/50	5 5	—	A	40 weeks	—	—	—	—
M	8/4/50	4 11	—	A	—	—	—	—	Breech
F	9/4/50	2 12	—	B	27 weeks	25/4/50	16 days	Spina Bifida	—
F	16/4/50	2 11	—	B 1½	35 weeks	—	—	—	Peritonitis from 20th week
M	19/4/50	4 12	—	A	35 weeks	—	—	—	—
F	20/4/50	5 1	—	B	37 weeks	—	—	—	—
M	21/4/50	4 5	—	B	36 weeks	—	—	—	—
F	24/4/50	5 0	—	—	36 weeks	24/4/50	15 mins.	Prematurity	—
F	1/5/50	5 3	—	B	38 weeks (Twin)	—	—	—	Toxæmia (slight)
M	3/5/50	5 7	—	B	36 weeks	—	—	—	—
F	4/5/50	5 8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
M	1/6/50	5 0	—	B 5½	30 weeks	31/7/50	8 weeks	Capillary Bronchitis	Jaundice. Hæmorrhage into tissue surrounding eyes
F	8/6/50	5 6	—	B 1½	40 weeks	—	—	—	—
F	28/6/50	5 8	—	B 1½	40 weeks	—	—	—	Elephantiasis right leg, High Blood Pressure and Albuminuria
M	9/7/50	5 4	—	B	39 weeks	—	—	—	—
M	24/7/50	2 2	—	—	—	24/7/50	1½ hours	Pulmonary Atelectasis Prematurity	—
F	6/8/50	5 7	—	B 5½	39 weeks	—	—	—	—
M	7/9/50	4 0	—	A	32 weeks	—	—	—	—
M	24/9/50	5 3	—	B	36 weeks	—	—	—	—
M	29/9/50	4 5	—	B	35 weeks (Twin)	—	—	—	—
M	29/9/50	3 2	—	B	35 weeks (Twin)	—	—	—	—
M	4/11/50	4 4	—	B + A	32 weeks (Twin)	—	—	—	—
M	4/11/50	4 10	—	B + A	32 weeks (Twin)	—	—	—	—
M	7/11/50	5 8	—	A	—	—	—	—	Breech
M	10/11/50	5 7	—	B	40 weeks	—	—	—	—
M	14/11/50	5 3	—	B 1½	36 weeks (Twin)	—	—	—	Toxæmia of Pregnancy
M	14/11/50	5 8	—	B 7½	36 weeks (Twin)	—	—	—	Toxæmia of Pregnancy
F	23/11/50	4 2	—	A	36 weeks	—	—	—	—
F	27/11/50	4 11	—	B 5½	36 weeks	—	—	—	Toxæmia of Pregnancy, B.P. + Œdema, Surgical induction
F	28/11/50	5 7	—	B 1½	38 weeks	—	—	—	Toxæmia of Pregnancy, Raised Blood Pressure
F	29/11/50	5 4	—	A	40 weeks	—	—	—	—
F	8/12/50	5 7	—	B	38 weeks	—	—	—	—
F	13/12/50	5 5	—	B	39 weeks	—	—	—	—
M	13/12/50	3 12	—	B 1½	33 weeks (Twin)	—	—	—	—
M	13/12/50	3 4	—	B 1½	33 weeks (Twin)	9/3/51	12 weeks	Bronchial Pneumonia	—
M	18/12/50	4 1	—	B 1½	35 weeks	—	—	—	—
F	20/12/50	3 2	—	B	30 weeks	4/1/51	15 days	Prematurity	—
M	23/12/50	2 6	—	—	30 weeks	23/12/50	—	Prematurity	—
F	26/12/50	5 8	—	B	38 weeks	—	—	—	—
DOMICILIARY BIRTHS									
M	9/1/50	5 4	—	B	38 weeks	—	—	—	—
M	15/3/50	5 8	—	B	40 weeks	—	—	—	—
M	1/6/50	5 8	—	B	40 weeks	—	—	—	—
M	9/6/50	5 2	—	B 18 days	35 weeks	—	—	—	—
F	3/8/50	4 5	—	A	33 weeks	—	—	—	B.B.A.
M	18/9/50	3 5	—	B	40 weeks	—	—	—	—
F	1/10/50	3 4	Yes	A	30 weeks	—	—	—	—

to seven weeks. The Table on page 70a, to be read in conjunction with the previous Table, gives particulars of the Social/Handicraft Centres and the Home Teachers who supervise them.

Training of Home Teachers

The recent deaths of two experienced Home Teachers coupled with retirements and resignations have gravely affected your Home Teaching Service this year. The problem of securing effective visitation has only partially been met by securing replacements for departing staff as coincident with these events has been an appreciable increase in the number of blind persons registered. Further appointment of staff will unquestionably be necessary if the quality of the service is not to be diluted. It will, therefore, be necessary to submit my recommendations to you on this point in the near future : meanwhile, five Home Teacher trainees are receiving training for the Home Teacher's Examination from qualified members of your staff and representatives of national and local government departments. Two of last year's unsuccessful candidates were, I am pleased to report, awarded the Home Teaching Certificate this year, while the other trainee left the department before the examination date, to take employment with a neighbouring authority.

The syllabus of the Home Teaching Certificate requires candidates to satisfy the Examiners orally and in writing under three main heads :—

- (1) To show knowledge of and the ability to teach Braille and Moon systems,
- (2) To possess a wide range of Professional Knowledge appertaining to the blind, deaf/blind and partially sighted, and
- (3) To show practical ability in appropriate home occupations, i.e. crafts, typewriting, etc.

Supervisor/Trainer of Home Teachers

One of your Home Teachers was appointed to this post early in the year. The greater part of her time has been absorbed in training and seeking the solution of more complicated problems of the blind.

Refresher Course for Home Teachers

The Southern Regional Association for the Blind again organised a Refresher Course, from the 14th to the 20th March, 1960, at which you authorised the usual attendance of two Home Teachers. The Course, comprising practical discussions, lectures and instruction in various crafts and pastime occupations, affords valuable opportunities for the service to keep abreast of developments in the sphere of blind welfare.

Education and Training of Blind Persons

Table VIII in the Appendix gives details of the work carried out in connection with the rehabilitation, training and employment of blind persons over the age of 16 years. At the 31st March, 1960, 112 males were in employment of whom 51 were engaged in " open " and 61 in " sheltered " employment. Of the 28 females employed, 8 were in " open " employment and 20 in " sheltered " employment.

During the year, four blind persons, three men and a woman, received training at industrial rehabilitation courses run by the Royal National Institute for the Blind at Torquay. A similar course was undertaken by a partially sighted man on the grounds that he is likely to become blind within four years.

In relation to workshop employment, 61 males were provided with “ sheltered ” employment, as compared with 63 last year, and the number of journeywomen increased from 19 to 20. I would like to mention in this context the very close support and co-operation which the Department receives from the Disablement Resettlement Service of the Ministry of Labour and the Royal National Institute for the Blind.

As is to be expected, the total number of blind persons “ not available for work ” increases in step with the growing number of aged people on the Register. The 1,485 persons shown in column (p) “ not working—65 and over ” represents 71% of the grand total of 2,092 blind persons on the Register over the age of 16. The corresponding percentages over the past three years have been 69.8%, 68.4% and 66.1% respectively.

The total number of unemployed persons who are capable of and available for work is 20, of whom 17 are male and three female. All possible action is taken to avoid this situation and the cases are under constant review by the Disablement Resettlement Service, the Royal National Institute for the Blind Placement Service, and your Home Teaching Service.

Placement of Blind Persons in “ Open ” Employment

Since 1952 the Authority has made use of the Specialist Placement Service provided by the Royal National Institute for the Blind, for which it makes an annual financial contribution in respect of each registered blind person between the ages of 16 and 59. In the period under review, the agreed amount for each blind person has been £1 2s. 0d., thus making a total contribution of £498. This year, Mr. W. J. Smith, the Institute's Placement Officer, has effected one placement and four replacements. In the course of his work for Glamorgan Blind Persons he made 155 calls on blind persons, 315 calls and visits to local, commercial and industrial firms, and 84 calls on various local government bodies and voluntary organisations. The Institute's Training Officer, Mr. E. Redford, also assisted in respect of the initial training of one blind person and made five “ further training ” and “ service ” calls.

Table IX in the Appendix provides information additional to that given in column (d) of Table VIII.

In previous years, I have commented on a movement from “ Sheltered ” to “ Open ” employment but recently there have been indications of an abatement in this trend, as the following table shows :—

Trend of " Sheltered " and " Open " Employment

<i>Persons Employed</i>	1950	1954	1958	1959	1960
In " Sheltered " Employment ..	126	98	88	82	81
In " Open " Employment ..	34	47	62	61	59
TOTALS	160	145	150	143	140

The ideal solution for most young blind people is undoubtedly employment in " open " industry ; this is the very yardstick of independence, not attainable by all. For those whose skill and personality is not suited to " open " employment there is the alternative of " sheltered " employment such as exists in your two County Workshops for the Blind, and reference is made elsewhere in this Report to the excellent work undertaken here.

Aids for the Blind

Your Scheme of Welfare Services provides for the issue of aids and implements to blind persons to enable them to overcome in some degree their disability. The aids which are issued on indefinite loan are undoubtedly of great benefit, as will be visualised by reference to the following list :—

- 134 white walking sticks.
- 2 Stainsby-Wayne writing machines.
- 1 Underwood typewriter fitted with a Braille Scale.
- 5 Portland, and
- 9 Venetian writing frames.
- 6 bread-cutting boxes.
- 14 boxes of dominoes, and
- 15 peg frames for string bags.

Guide Dogs for the Blind Association

During the last year you gave authority for two blind persons to have training with guide dogs under the direction of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. I am pleased to say both have this year attended the Association's Centre at Exeter and returned home with their guide dogs.

Periodicals

The following periodicals embossed in Braille or Moon type were supplied to blind persons without charge :—

<i>Periodical</i>	<i>Published</i>	<i>Number of Copies supplied</i>
Progress	Monthly	32
Braille Radio Times	Weekly	29
Madam Magazine	Monthly	28



<i>Periodical</i>	<i>Published</i>	<i>Number of Copies Supplied</i>
World Digest	Monthly	27
New Beacon	Monthly	19
National Braille Mail	Weekly	18
Sporting Record	Weekly	16
Moon Magazine	Monthly	12
Braille Listener	Weekly	11
Moon Newspaper	Weekly	9
Sports Report	Weekly	6
Hora Jocunda	Monthly	6
Home Help	Weekly	5
Family Doctor	Monthly	4
Channels of Blessing	Bi-Monthly	3
Moon Messenger	Monthly	3
National News Letter	Weekly	2
Light of the Moon	Monthly	1
Braille Chess Magazine	Quarterly	1
Braille Technical Press	Monthly	1
World Christian Digest	Quarterly	1
Horizon	Monthly	1
Braille Extracts from Law Notes	Monthly	1
Piano Tuners Quarterly	Quarterly	1
		237

Once again there has been a small increase in demand for these embossed publications. In addition to these periodicals supplied direct by the Department, your Committee made a grant of £127 to the National Library for the Blind in respect of 51 Glamorgan blind readers.

The Wireless for the Blind Fund

The Department continues to act as agent for the Wireless for the Blind Fund in distributing wireless sets to blind persons. Particulars of sets issued by the Fund, together with a comparison with previous years are given below :—

<i>Types of Listening Equipment</i>	<i>Year Ended</i>			
	31/3/57	31/3/58	31/3/59	31/3/60
Universal Mains Set	77	63	89	95
Battery Sets	4	4	4	3
Radio Relay	104	78	102	69

Repair of Wireless Sets

This year a sum of £224 has been expended on repairing for blind persons wireless receivers, both privately owned and those issued by the Wireless for the Blind Fund. The comparative sum for last year was £223.

Wireless Telegraphy (Blind Persons Facilities) Act, 1955

To enable blind persons to obtain free wireless licences under the provision of this Act, 290 certificates were issued. In 1959 and 1958, 224 and 318 certificates respectively were issued for this purpose.

Holidays for Blind Persons

During the year many blind persons enjoyed a holiday at a holiday home of their choice, and to this end you approved financial grants as follows :—

<i>Blind Holiday Home</i>	<i>Number of Persons Assisted</i>
Glynn Vivian Home of Rest, Mumbles, Gower	21
London Association for the Blind Home, “Orton Rigg,” Bournemouth	14
The Bannow Home, St. Leonards-on-Sea ..	5
“Henderson ” Holiday Home, Blackpool ..	8
The Armitage, Worthing	1
	—
	49
	—

Travelling expenses of these blind persons were also met and in 18 instances a further grant was made to enable a sighted escort — usually a husband or wife — to accompany the person concerned.

In addition, 82 grants were authorised by you towards the travelling expenses of blind persons who wished to spend a holiday in other parts of the country with relatives or friends. In 66 instances the travelling expenses of a guide were also met. The cost of the holiday service was £698 — an increase of £285 on the previous year.

Pastime Occupations

Progress in craftwork has this year again been satisfactory and 53 free outfits of material were issued to blind persons as an encouragement to learn craftwork. Supplementary to this service, those practising craftwork at home or at the Centre are assisted by the Department's purchasing materials in bulk and passing the benefit on to the user : remittances for materials this year totalled £542 and it may interest the

Committee to observe from the table below the relative appeal of the various crafts :—

	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60
	£	£	£	£
Seagrass and Stools	398	277	279	215
Cane and Strawplait	103	119	104	106
Macramé Twine ..	75	59	59	29
Wool	70	140	119	135
Knitting Yarn ..	46	51	58	57
	692	646	619	542

In the past few years, there has been a slight but consistent slackening of interest in pastime occupation, which is no doubt related to the increasing number of elderly people registered.

Social/Handicraft Centres and Group Activities

The 18 Social/Handicraft Centres for the Blind, of which details are given on page 70a have all been well supported throughout the year. To encourage attendance payment of travelling expenses has been authorised in 57 instances, and where appropriate the travelling expenses of a sighted guide has also been met. Total expenditure on travelling expenses paid by the Authority amounted this year to £773, as compared with £746 in the previous year.

Your full-time Centre at Holly House continues its useful contribution to the welfare needs of blind persons in the area, where in co-operation with local organisations, the Home Teacher has provided a varied programme of interest to the blind. The Centre also provides craftwork facilities for registered handicapped persons.

The varied way in which the Centres cater for the welfare of blind persons is, I think, well illustrated in the following extracts from reports.

“ . . . Average attendance is 55. A number of members are engaged each week with crafts, mainly canework articles and straw-plait bags which are always in demand.”

“ . . . The average attendance at L. Centre during the quarter was 38. We have been assisted by three voluntary helpers and regularly entertained by two resident pianists — one of whom is a blind person, the other sighted. Interest is building up in the next Eisteddfod and all potential competitors are being energetically “lobbied.” We hope to achieve a record entry this year.”

“ . . . Grannie B. will be 100 years old on 6th January, 1961, and it is only since the end of the summer that she has failed to visit the Centre regularly. When M. Centre visited P. Centre recently, the members of P. sent Mrs. B. a basket of fruit, money, and 1 lb. box of chocolates.”

Talking Books for the Blind

Eleven machines are available in the Administrative County and, in the course of the year, were loaned with considerable benefit to 14 blind persons unable to read Braille or too ill to do craft work. Records are supplied directly by the Nuffield Talking Book Library for the Blind, for which no service charge is made.

General Social Welfare of the Blind

More than 1,600 blind persons and their guides enjoyed the 1959 summer outings. Parties journeyed from local Centres to Barry, Porthcawl, Port Eynon, Langland Bay, Cheltenham, Wye Valley, Llandrindod Wells, Llanstephen and Tenby.

The cost of catering and transport for the programme of 14 outings, which were all outstandingly successful, was £1,172.

During Christmas 1959, 1,593 blind persons and guides attended the 16 Christmas Parties arranged in various parts of the County and a hearty vote of thanks to the County Council for the fare and facilities provided was proposed at each party. To blind persons who, unfortunately, could not attend the parties because of infirmity or illness, you sent over 1,000 grocery vouchers valued 5/-d. each, exchangeable for Christmas fare at local shops. Supplementing these expressions of goodwill, every registered disabled person, blind and sighted, on the County's Registers received from your Chairman a Christmas card expressing your good wishes and seasonal greetings.

Throughout the year — but especially at Christmas — many offers are received from local people and organisations to provide entertainment and other forms of assistance to the blind, for example :

The Pontypridd Townswomen's Guild entertained the members of the Pontypridd Social Centre for the Blind with two play readings.

The Caerphilly Social Centre for the Blind has received a gift of a piano from Mr. W. H. Compton, Fairwater, Cardiff.

The Inner Wheel, Maesteg, Rotary Club, gave £1 in cash to each of 20 home-bound blind persons living in the Llynfi Valley.

Mr. D. G. Woolley, Ynysybwl and Mr. Ivor Jenkins, Pontyclun, each made a gift of a wireless set for the use of a registered blind person.

Mr. John Williams, Ferndale, donated a radiogram for use at Holly House Social Centre.

It is my custom to thank on your behalf all who help so earnestly to make our work successful ; however I would like again to express thanks to the many persons who have helped in this work and particularly those who, throughout the year, voluntarily assist in running the Centres.

4. WELFARE OF THE PARTIALLY SIGHTED.

Regular visits are made to all partially sighted persons by Home Teachers who advise and help with their welfare problems, particularly those of employment and future prospects. In view of the high percentage of partially sighted persons likely to become blind, they are encouraged to learn Braille or Moon. They are also invited to attend the Social/Handicraft Centres and this year you have authorised repayment of travelling expenses for 15 partially sighted persons.

Pastime Handicrafts

Free initial issues of pastime materials are made to partially sighted persons to enable them to learn a handicraft of their choice and they are subsequently allowed to buy handicraft materials at cost price from the Department. During the year 40 persons were granted free initial issues and 39 orders for pastime materials were received.

Training and Employment

The number of partially sighted persons in open employment at the 31st March, 1960, was 33, the same number as last year. Four are in employment in Workshops for the Blind.

You have in one case continued to make a grant of 50% of the cost of travelling to work, having regard to the distance involved and the knowledge that but for poor vision he would undoubtedly have a wider choice of employment and higher wages.

GLAMORGAN COUNTY BLIND WELFARE ASSOCIATION

Early in the development of Welfare Services for the Blind, it became clear that there was from time to time the need to make grants of small sums of money for welfare services. By the terms of the National Assistance Act the Committees of the Centres are precluded from making public appeals for financial support and the County Council are also precluded from making monetary payments to blind and partially sighted persons other than those provided with workshop employment. Accordingly, the Glamorgan County Blind Welfare Association, fostered by the Welfare Services Committee, was set up in 1952 with the object of making small disbursements of money and co-ordinating the work of the Centres.

Membership of the Association consists of Members of your Special Services Sub-Committee and representatives of the Social Centres. Under a financial agreement with the Royal National Institute for the Blind and associated national bodies the Institute makes collections in the Administrative County which, after deducting collecting expenses, are distributed on a basis of 65% to the Association and 35% to the national bodies.

Out of the moneys made available, welfare arrangements are made in accordance with a scheme approved in 1954, the chief features of which fall into four heads, viz :—

- (1) Amenities for the home-bound blind ;
- (2) Social Centre activities ;
- (3) General amenities, i.e. the provision of amenities for blind persons in the County Council Workshops or in “open” employment, being items that could not appropriately be purchased out of the County Council moneys ;
- (4) Administrative expenses of committees attached to Social Centres, i.e. expenses incurred by Association Members and voluntary helpers attached to Social Centres in the furtherance of the Association's affairs.

Some examples of the activities sponsored out of the Association's funds during the year are as follows :—

Grants totalling £794 8s. 8d. were made towards 15 Summer Outings which were additional to those provided by the County Council. One thousand, three hundred and ninety-eight blind persons participated in the Outings at an average cost of 11/4d. per head.

The Association approved grants of 10/-d. each to home-bound blind persons unable through age or infirmity to attend the Summer Outings or Christmas Parties organised by the County Council. Altogether, 1,020 summer and 1,187 Christmas grants were made, an increase of 135 over the previous year.

Grants not exceeding £15 were made to each Centre to encourage inter-centre visits. Eighteen catering grants and 24 travelling grants were authorised at a total cost of £222 10s. 0d.

Home Teachers have again, out of the Association's funds, made gifts of fruit, flowers, etc. to sick persons confined to their homes. This year £630 4s. 0d. was expended in this way.

The Association issued on loan 26 Braille watches and 10 alarm clocks and met the cost of repair of thirty-six Braille time-pieces, at a cost of £36. Fifty-seven wireless batteries were supplied and in 33 instances the cost of Radio Relay rental for necessitous blind persons was met.

Useful items, costing approximately £14 in all, were also provided, including fireguards, bed-jackets, slippers, etc. A gift of a stimulating beverage was also made to one person who reached his 103rd birthday.

Eisteddfodau for the Blind

Once again both Eisteddfodau were remarkably successful. The West Glamorgan Eisteddfod was held at the College of Further Education, Port Talbot, and attended by 410 blind persons and guides from the seven local Social Centres. Five-hundred and ten representatives from 10 Social Centres were present at the Eisteddfod for East Glamorgan held at the Grammar School for Boys, Pontypridd, on the following day. County Councillor J. Treharne, J.P., took the chair at West Glamorgan, and County Councillor A. W. Harris, J.P., was Chairman at Pontypridd.

The first prize winners in the individual events at both Eisteddfodau were presented with competition cups to be held for a year in addition to cash prizes. The Madame Wynn Richards-Thomas Challenge Cup and the Tudor Jeremy Challenge Cup were eagerly contested at the West and East Glamorgan Eisteddfodau respectively.

The total cost of the Eisteddfodau including transport, catering and prizes was £394 19s. 9d.

5. COUNTY WORKSHOPS FOR THE BLIND

The numbers of journeymen and journeywomen employed in the various Departments of the County Workshops at the 31st March, 1960, are given below :—

	<i>Treforest</i>	<i>Llwynypia</i>	<i>Total</i>
Mat	—	*18	18
Brush	—	†18	18
Knitwear	‡11	7	18
Basket	8	9	17
Aids to Handicapped Department ..	\$ 2	—	2
	—	—	—
	21	52	73
	—	—	—

* Includes 1 sighted severely handicapped worker.

† Includes 2 partially sighted and 5 sighted severely handicapped workers.

‡ Includes 5 sighted severely handicapped workers.

\$ Sighted handicapped workers.

Departmental Survey

Full employment has again been a feature of all Departments of the County Workshops during the year under review.

Mat Department (Llwynypia)

Whilst the demand for the usual stock sizes of mat has remained steady throughout the year, an increased demand for gymnasium mats has made it necessary to adapt two looms to allow for their production, and a further two looms will need to be altered very shortly. Additional dust extraction equipment has been installed in the Mat Cropping Section and this has resulted in more efficient control of dust.

The number of journeymen employed in this Department remained constant during the year.

Brush Department (Llwynypia)

Most of the production in this Department is of road roller and scavenging brushes required by local Authorities for street cleaning purposes. A great variety of other brushes, however, is also being manufactured and all find a ready market.

The number of journeymen increased by one during the year.

Knitting Department (Llwynypia and Treforest)

The additional machinery referred to in last year's report has now been received. The hand-operated strip-making machine has in fact been installed, and the electrically operated 12 gauge knitting machine is now awaiting installation. These machines will help considerably to meet the increasing demand for the knitted garments produced at the Workshops.

During the year under review the number of journeywomen increased by one.

Basket Department (Llwynypia and Treforest)

A steady flow of orders has been received in this Department throughout the year, pigeon baskets in particular being despatched to all parts of the British Isles, and in one instance to Canada ! The various Agricultural Shows, Exhibitions, etc., always provide a ready market for the smaller type of basket.

The number of journeymen in this Department decreased by one during the year.

Aids for Handicapped Persons

An additional journeyman has been appointed in this Department, and the number of aids produced has accordingly increased considerably. The demand for these aids, however, still continued to outpace production and the possibility of extending this very important Department further is being explored.

General

The Wye Valley was the scene for this year's outing for the staff and blind workers, and although, as at the previous year's outing, the weather proved unkind, all had an enjoyable time.

The well attended Christmas party held by the staff and blind workers at the Pontypridd and District Social Club showed once more the popularity of this annual event.

SWANSEA WORKSHOPS

At the 31st March, 1960, 26 Glamorgan blind workers — 17 journeymen and 9 journeywomen — were employed at the Workshops of the Swansea Institution for the Blind. These workshops removed from the centre of Swansea to Morriston on their municipalisation under the Swansea County Borough Council with effect from the 1st February, 1960. The wages of these blind workers were augmented by the County Council in the sum of £6,837 for the year 1959/60, from which amount a capitation grant of £150 per worker per annum is recoverable from the Ministry of Labour.

Accounts

The County Treasurer's summarised accounts for the Glamorgan County Workshops in respect of the year ended 31st March, 1960, will be found at the end of this Report.

Productive Earnings — Blind Workers

On the 31st March, 1960, the weekly qualifying earnings standards for new entrants to the County Workshops, based on the nationally agreed piece-work rates which are applicable to workers in similar trades in "open" industry, were as follows :—

					£	s.	d.	
Mat	..	..	..	..	2	14	0	per week
Brush	..	..	..	..	2	9	0	per week
Basket	..	..	..	..	2	8	0	per week

The following figures compare the average earnings of the journeyworkers at both Workshops during 1959/60 with those for the previous year :—

				1958/59	1959/60
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Mat	..	..	.	2 14 8	3 1 2
Brush	..	..	..	2 11 11	2 15 11
Knitwear — Flat	..	..		2 2 5	2 10 2
Knitwear — Round		..		1 7 3	1 12 7
Basket	..	..	..	2 2 3	2 6 11

SALES ORGANISATION

The Sales Organisation has again experienced a successful year. Increased sales have ensured full employment for the blind and otherwise disabled employees. The total Sales for the period under review amounted to £25,718 which maintains the trend of increase given below :—

COUNTY WORKSHOPS—SALES ORGANISATION

<i>Twelve months ending</i>	<i>Total Sales</i>	<i>Increase over previous year</i>
31/3/1960	£ 25,718	£ 1,995
31/3/1959	23,723	1,266
31/3/1958	22,457	2,534
31/3/1957	19,923	570
31/3/1956	19,353	1,383
31/3/1955	17,970	—

Business emanating from Port Talbot and Neath General Hospitals, introduced by your Chairman, continues, and with the co-operation of the Matrons a considerable number of knitwear garments and baskets have been sold to patients and staff. The value of goods actually sold at the Hospitals during the year amounted to £875 and orders in hand at March 31st, awaiting execution was valued at £100.

Display Cases

Many orders have been received as a result of the displays at County Hall, County Offices at Ystrad Mynach and Bridgend, and the Port Talbot General Hospital. The value of orders accruing from these sources amounted to over £700.

Mail Order Department

In response to selective advertising, 578 pigeon baskets were sold this year at a price of approximately £1,550, and baskets were despatched as far afield as Ireland and Canada !

Exhibitions

Exhibitions of products made by the blind continue to be organised at various agricultural and flower shows in the County and they have proved their worth, not only in direct orders received but also in the valuable business relationships which result in orders being requested by post. The tent exhibiting the produce of the blind is now very well known and the resulting publicity is most valuable.

Exhibitions were staged at the following shows, and sales to the value of £500 were made.

Cowbridge Agricultural Show.
Barry Flower and Horse Show.
Ystrad Mynach Flower Show.
Cardiff Horticultural Show.
Wenvoe Agricultural and Flower Show.
Mid-Rhondda and District Chrysanthemum Show.

APPENDIX

WELFARE OF THE HANDICAPPED

STATISTICAL TABLES

The statistical information contained in this Appendix is based on information submitted to the Ministry of Health on the 31st December of each year but amended to relate to the year ended 31st March, 1960. The page number shown at the top right-hand corner of each Table indicates the page in the Report to which the Table refers.

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Welfare of the Handicapped

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- II Distribution of Registered Handicapped Persons by Age and Sex.
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- IIIb Disabilities of Generally Handicapped Persons — Complete Analyses.
- IV Welfare of the Deaf — Case Load of Home Visitors.
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Welfare of the Blind and Partially Sighted

- VI Register of Blind Persons classified into Age Groups and Sex.
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- IX Occupations of Employed Blind Persons.
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- XII Register of Partially Sighted Persons classified into Age Groups and Sex.
- XIII Register of Partially Sighted Persons — Cases newly-registered during year ended 31st March, 1960 — Age at Date of Registration.

TABLE I

See Page 40

NUMBER OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS ON REGISTER

	Aberdare	Bridgend	Caerphilly	Neath and West Glam.	Pontypridd	Rhondda	South East Glamorgan	Total at 31/3/60	Total at 31/3/59	Total at 31/3/58
Deaf	28	40	38	64	33	39	12	254	260	255
Hard of Hearing ..	23	22	23	99	26	25	56	274	272	243
General Classes ..	458	598	354	872	436	1,031	399	4,148	4,073	3,894
TOTALS ..	509	660	415	1,035	495	1,095	467	4,676	4,605	4,392

TABLE II

See Page 40

DISTRIBUTION OF REGISTERED HANDICAPPED PERSONS
BY AGE

Disability	Sex	0-15	16-20	21-40	41-50	51-64	65 and over	Totals at 31st March, 1960	
Deaf	Male	12	10	47	10	28	22	129	254
	Female	11	13	43	18	19	21	125	
Hard of Hearing	Male	4	7	19	14	28	46	118	274
	Female	1	2	14	13	63	63	156	
Generally Handicapped	Male	10	61	457	398	967	943	2,836	4,148
	Female	21	60	314	173	374	370	1,312	
TOTALS		59	153	894	626	1,479	1,465		4,676

REGISTER OF GENERALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS

DISABILITY	Aberdare	Bridgend	Caerphilly	Neath and West Glam.	Pontypridd	Rhondda	South East Glamorgan	Total at 31st March, 1960	Total at 31st March, 1959	Total at 31st March, 1958
Amputations	15	31	13	56	21	39	14	189	171	160
Arthritis and Rheumatism	46	59	25	137	42	83	69	461	395	347
Congenital Malformation and Deformation	9	13	10	33	17	21	9	112	105	101
Diseases of the Digestive and Genito/Urinary Systems, of Heart, Circulatory or Respiratory Systems and of the Skin	183	160	121	213	146	444	72	1,339	1,385	1,381
Injuries of the Head, Face and Thorax, Abdomen, Pelvis or Trunk. Injuries or Diseases of the upper and Lower Limbs and of the Spine	64	98	54	129	62	111	70	588	586	564
Organic Nervous Diseases : Epilepsy, Disseminated Sclerosis, Poliomyelitis, Sciatica, Hemiplegia, etc.	71	124	68	155	58	129	93	698	668	609
Neurosis, Psychoses, and other Nervous and Mental Disorders not included above	41	57	33	60	54	125	25	395	401	390
T.B. (Respiratory)	16	19	6	37	16	31	17	142	154	153
T.B. (Non-Respiratory)	4	4	8	16	5	7	4	48	49	46
Diseases and Injuries not specified above	9	33	16	36	15	41	26	176	159	143
TOTAL	458	598	354	872	436	1,031	399	4,148	4,073	3,894

REGISTER OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS AT 31st MARCH, 1960

DISABILITY				Aberdare	Bridgend	Caerphilly	Neath and West Glam.	Pontypridd	Rhondda	South East Glamorgan	Total
A. GENERAL CLASSES											
1.	Amputation — one arm	..	..	1	4	1	14	5	8	1	34
2.	Amputation — two arms	..	..	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	3
3.	Amputation — one leg	..	..	10	18	12	28	10	21	8	107
4.	Amputation — two legs	..	..	3	3	—	6	2	2	3	19
5.	Amputations — others	..	..	1	5	—	8	4	6	2	26
6.	Rheumatism	..	..	46	59	25	137	42	83	69	461
7.	Congenital Malformation	..	..	9	13	10	33	17	21	9	112
8.	Diseases of Digestive System	..	..	12	13	12	11	15	28	7	98
9.	Diseases of Genito-Urinary System	..	..	3	6	5	7	4	7	2	34
10.	Diseases of Heart	..	..	33	45	31	38	25	71	39	282
11.	Pneumoconiosis	..	..	105	58	42	112	75	269	4	665
12.	Bronchitis	..	..	27	32	30	37	23	64	17	230
13.	Diseases of Skin	..	..	3	6	1	8	4	5	3	30
18.	Injuries of Head or Trunk	..	..	14	21	12	20	10	21	6	104
19.	Injuries of Lower Limbs	..	..	21	26	25	56	27	39	31	225
20.	Injuries of Shoulder or Arm	..	..	10	9	10	14	12	15	9	79
21.	Injuries of Spine	..	..	19	42	7	39	13	36	24	180
22.	Neurosis	..	..	28	22	20	17	21	54	6	168
23.	Epilepsy	..	..	12	19	17	26	11	34	23	142
24.	Other Nervous Diseases	..	..	59	105	51	129	47	95	70	556
25.	Mental Deficiency	..	..	12	27	10	32	19	51	15	166
26.	Other Mental Disorders	..	..	1	8	3	11	14	20	4	61
27.	T.B. Pulmonary	..	..	16	19	6	37	16	31	17	142
28.	T.B. Surgical	..	..	4	4	8	16	5	7	4	48
29.	Others	..	..	9	33	16	36	15	41	26	176
				458	598	354	872	436	1,031	399	4,148
B. DEAF				28	40	38	64	33	39	12	254
C. HARD OF HEARING				23	22	23	99	26	25	56	274
				509	660	415	1,035	495	1,095	467	4,676

WELFARE OF THE DEAF — CASE LOAD OF HOME VISITORS

Area	Home Visitor	Case Load of Registered Handicapped Persons		Responsible for Social Centres
		1958/59	1959/60	
CAERPHILLY AND SOUTH-EAST GLAMORGAN	Mr. P. Dalladay	52 Deaf 32 Hard of Hearing	50 Deaf 43 Hard of Hearing	Caerphilly *Barry
PONTYPRIDD AND RHONDDA		79 Deaf 35 Hard of Hearing	72 Deaf 31 Hard of Hearing	Treorchy
ABERDARE	Mr. I. Martin	26 Deaf 25 Hard of Hearing	28 Deaf 21 Hard of Hearing	Aberdare
BRIDGEND		40 Deaf 3 Hard of Hearing	40 Deaf 3 Hard of Hearing	—
NEATH AND WEST GLAMORGAN		63 Deaf 9 Hard of Hearing	64 Deaf 8 Hard of Hearing	Briton Ferry

*The Barry Hard of Hearing Centre is in the charge of Mrs. D. M. Evans,
the Technical Assistant for the Deaf.

TABLE V

See Page 63

CENTRES FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

Area	Town	Venue	Evening	Home Visitor	Average Weekly Attendance	
					1959/60	1958/59
CAERPHILLY	Caerphilly	St. Martin's Church Hall, Caerphilly	Thursday, 6-9 p.m.	Mr. P. Dalladay	17	18
ABERDARE	Aberdare	Memorial Hall, Aberdare	Thursday, 7-10 p.m.	Mr. I. Martin	10	14
RHONDDA	Treorchy	St. Matthew's Church Hall	Wednesday, 6-9 p.m.	Mr. P. Dalladay	14	16
SOUTH-EAST GLAMORGAN	*Barry Hard of Hearing	Mount Pleasant Baptist Church Hall, Cadoxton	Tuesday, 7-9 p.m. Weekly from 1/2/1960	Mrs. D. M. Evans	19	16
NEATH	Briton Ferry	Public Hall, Briton Ferry	Tuesday, 6-9 p.m.	Mr. I. Martin	20	22

TABLE VI

REGISTER OF BLIND PERSONS AS AT 31st MARCH, 1960

(Classified under age groups)

	0	1	2	3	4	5-10	11-15	16-20	21-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-64	65-69	70-79	80-84	85-89	90+	Total
Male ..	-	-	-	1	1	10	8	9	20	37	50	99	77	101	230	142	71	22	878
Female	-	-	-	-	1	12	8	5	14	28	68	119	86	117	412	210	137	44	1,261
Total at 31/3/60	-	-	-	1	2	22	16	14	34	65	118	218	163	218	642	352	208	66	2,139
Total at 31/3/59	-	-	-	-	2	23	14	14	33	71	122	218	162	222	624	334	154	52	2,045

TABLE VII

See Page 65

BLIND PERSONS REGISTERED AS NEW CASES DURING YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1960
(Excluding recertification and transfers from other areas)

AGE AT DATE OF REGISTRATION

	0	1	2	3	4	5-10	11-15	16-20	21-29	30-39	40-49	50-54	60-64	65-69	70-79	80-84	85-89	90+	Total
Male ..	2	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	2	12	11	11	53	32	12	1	140
Female ..	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	1	1	10	9	13	27	78	44	19	9	214
Total at 31/3/60	2	-	-	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	12	21	24	38	131	76	31	10	354
Total at 31/3/59	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	7	20	17	44	123	64	30	10	320

TABLE VIII

See Page 71

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT. AGE PERIODS 16 YEARS AND UPWARDS

Age	EMPLOYED										Undergoing Training			NOT EMPLOYED										(q) GRAND TOTAL (i.e. Total of Columns (d) - (p) and at School 16-20)	(r) Number of Persons registered under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944, included in Column (q)				
	In Workshops for the Blind (a)					(b) As Approved Home Workers	Otherwise than in (a) or (b) (c)					(d) TOTAL EMPLOYED	(e) For Sheltered Employment	(f) For Open Employment	(g) Professional or University	Unemployed but capable of and available for work						(u) Not Available For Work	(v) Not Capable of Work			(w) Not Working			
	16-20	21-39	40-49	50-59	60-64		64 and over	Already trained	Subject to being trained	Without training	(m) For Open Employment																		
Male ..	4	14	18	25	4	—	—	—	4	4	4	112	2	—	—	—	7	—	9	—	—	1	22	7	68	62	564	858	134
Female ..	2	10	5	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	143	54	57	31	921	1240	31
Total at 31/3/1960	6	24	23	29	5	—	—	—	4	4	4	140	3	—	—	—	8	—	10	—	—	1	165	61	125	93	1485	2098	165
Total at 31/3/1959	6	25	26	28	2	1	—	—	4	4	4	143	1	—	—	—	7	1	6	—	—	—	169	75	129	72	1397	2006	164

TABLE IX

See Page 72

OCCUPATIONS OF EMPLOYED BLIND PERSONS (INCLUDED IN COLUMN (d) OF TABLE VIII)

PERIOD — YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1960

	Agents, Collectors, etc.	Agricultural Workers,	Basket Workers	Mattress Workers	Boot Repairers	Brush Makers	Chair Seaters	Clerks and Typists	Dealers, Tea Agents, Newsagents, Shopkeepers	Domestic Workers	Factory Operatives (Open Employment)	Home Teachers	Machine Kniters	Physiotherapy	Labourers	Mat Makers	Newsvendors and Hawkers	Legal Profession	Piano Tuners	Porters, Packers, Cleaners	School Teachers	Telephone Operator :	Open Employment not catalogued	Miscellaneous	Total
Workshops for the Blind	—	—	23	1	—	15	1	—	—	—	—	—	17	—	—	20	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	81
"Open" Employment	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	4	3	—	23	—	—	1	5	—	1	1	—	1	1	6	9	—	59
Total at 31st March, 1960	2	1	23	1	1	15	1	4	3	—	23	—	17	1	5	20	1	1	1	1	1	6	9	3	140
Total at 31st March, 1959	2	1	25	1	2	16	1	4	3	—	23	—	18	—	6	19	1	1	1	1	1	6	8	3	143

TABLE X

See Page 66

BLIND CHILDREN, AGE UNDER 16

	Under 2	Age 2 to 4 plus			Age 5 to 15 plus								TOTAL
		Educable		Ineducable	Educable				Ineducable				
		Attending Nursery including Sunshine Homes	At Home or Elsewhere	At Home or Elsewhere	Attending Special Schools for the Blind		Attending Other Schools	Not at School		Blind with Multiple Defects			
					Blind but no other Defects	Blind with other Defects		Blind but no other Defects	Blind with other Defects				
											Blind but no other Defects	Blind with other Defects	
Male	—	—	1	1	11	2	—	1	—	—			4
Female	—	—	1	—	13	2	1	—	—	—	4	21	
Total at 31/3/1960 ..	—	—	2	1	24	4	1	1	—	—	8	41	
Total at 31/3/1959 ..	—	—	2	—	23	5	—	—	—	—	9	39	

TABLE XI

See Page 66

BLIND PERSONS AGED 16 AND UPWARDS (EXCLUDING THOSE IN HOSTELS FOR WORKERS)

RESIDENT IN HOMES, HOSPITALS, ETC.

	Residential Accommodation provided under Part III of the 1948 Act, viz. Section 21		Residential Homes (other than Part III)	Mental Hospitals (d)	Mental Deficiency Institutions (e)	Chronic Wards of Hospitals (f)	Total (g)
	Homes for the Blind (a)	Other Homes (Glamorgan County Council) (b)					
Male	5	28	—	4	3	7	47
Female	6	29	—	5	7	21	68
Total at 31st March, 1960	11	57	—	9	10	28	115
Total at 31st March, 1959	11	58	—	8	10	22	109

TABLE XII

See Page 65

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS —
AGE GROUPS AND SEX

	0-1	2-4	5-15	16-20	21-49	50-64	65 and over	TOTAL
Males ..	—	—	17	9	35	32	109	202
Females ..	—	—	11	10	38	48	244	351
Total at 31/3/1960 ..	—	—	28	19	73	80	353	553
Total at 31/3/1959 ..	—	1	23	23	65	63	307	482

TABLE XIII

See Page 65

NUMBER OF PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS NEWLY
REGISTERED (EXCLUDING RE-CERTIFICATIONS AND
TRANSFERS FROM OTHER AREAS)
AGE AT DATE OF REGISTRATION

	0-1	2-4	5-15	16-20	21-49	50-64	65-69	70-79	80 and over	Total
Males	—	1	6	—	6	3	6	19	5	46
Females	—	—	1	—	5	13	16	39	19	93
Total at 31/3/1960	—	1	7	—	11	16	22	58	24	139
Total at 31/3/1959	—	1	2	—	9	18	23	71	27	151

COUNTY WORKSHOPS FOR THE BLIND
SUMMARISED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1960

TRADING ACCOUNT

COUNTY WORKSHOPS						
	Total £	Mat Dept. £	Basket Dept. £	Brush Dept. £	Knitting Dept. £	Aids for Handicapped Persons £
EXPENDITURE:						
Stock as at 1st April, 1959	7,998	1,208	2,806	889	3,019	76
Purchases	11,194	1,779	1,744	3,679	3,716	276
	<u>19,192</u>	<u>2,987</u>	<u>4,550</u>	<u>4,568</u>	<u>6,735</u>	<u>352</u>
Less Stock in hand as at 31st March, 1960	7,306	1,193	1,857	606	3,538	112
	<u>11,886</u>	<u>1,794</u>	<u>2,693</u>	<u>3,962</u>	<u>3,197</u>	<u>240</u>
Materials used	6,619	2,336	1,761	1,262	1,260	—
Productive Earnings (Blind)	4,258	635	644	1,471	1,396	112
	<u>22,763</u>	<u>4,765</u>	<u>5,098</u>	<u>6,695</u>	<u>5,853</u>	<u>352</u>
INCOME — Sales	25,718	* 4,898	5,732	7,802	6,934	352
	<u>2,955</u>	<u>133</u>	<u>634</u>	<u>1,107</u>	<u>1,081</u>	<u>—</u>
Gross Profit } Transferred to Profit	2,955	—	—	—	—	—
Gross Loss } and Loss Account	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Includes £36 piano tuning

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

EXPENDITURE		County Workshops Totals	INCOME		County Workshops Totals
		£			£
AUGMENTATION OF WAGES :					
Basket Department	..	6,225	Purchase Tax Collected on Sales	..	723
Knitting Department	..	4,300	Interest on Investments	..	218
Mat Department	..	5,374	Carriage Refunded	..	116
Brush Department	..	4,525	Other Income	..	16
Aids for Handicapped Persons	..	453			
		20,877			1,073
NON-PRODUCTIVE WAGES :					
Sighted Workers	..	3,191	Gross profit transferred from Trading Account	..	2,955
SALARIES AND WAGES :					
Management and Administration	..	2,577	Deficit Charged to Net Revenue Account	..	42,021
Caretakers and Cleaners	..	1,236			
Travellers and Salesmen	..	428			
		4,241			
		807			
Local Government Superannuation					
	..	..			
NATIONAL INSURANCE :					
Employer's Contributions	..	1,738			
Travelling Expenses — Staff	..	262			
Rent, Rates, Taxes and Insurance	..	665			
Heating, Lighting and Cleaning	..	1,301			
Printing, Stationery, Advertising, Postages and	..	296			
Telephones	..	32			
Affiliation Fees	..	716			
Customs and Excise — Purchase Tax	..	39			
Radio Rentals	..	6			
Carriage Outwards	..	19			
Running Expenses of Van	..	164			
Consumable Tools and Stores	..	1,302			
Repairs and Painting — Building	..	163			
Repairs and Maintenance — Plant	..	11			
Miscellaneous	..	827			
Plant and Machinery	..	386			
Furniture and Equipment	..	..			
ALLOWANCE TO BLIND WORKERS :		1,535			
Travelling Expenses	..	..			
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION :		2,626			
Expenses	..	..			
PROPORTION OF SALARIES AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES :					
Welfare Services Department	..	1,273			
Supplies Department	..	789			
Architect's Department	..	148			
Sales Organisation	..	2,965			
		5,175			
		252			
		46,631			
Capital Expenditure from Revenue	..	..			
Less :					
Chargeable to Training Account — Proportion of Salaries, etc.	..	386			
Management and Administration	..	196			
Other Overhead Charges	..	582			
		£46,049			

Less:

NET REVENUE ACCOUNT	
<i>County Workshops Totals</i>	<i>County Workshops Totals</i>
£	£
Deficit transferred from Training Account ..	321
Deficit transferred from Profit and Loss Account ..	42,021
	£
	12,865
	600
	28,877
	£42,342

TRAINING ACCOUNT

EXPENDITURE	County Workshops Totals		INCOME	County Workshops Totals	
	£	£		£	£
Stock in hand as at 1st April, 1959	..	140			
Salaries and Wages of Instructors	..	240			
Purchase of Materials :					
Knitting Department	..	35	Knitting Department	..	42
Basket Department	..	47	Basket Department	..	120
Brush Department	..	26	Brush Department	..	87
Aids for Handicapped Persons	..	4	Aids for Handicapped Persons	..	16
					265
Proportion Chargeable transferred from Profit and Loss Account		112	GRANT INCOME :		
Management and Administration	..	386	Ministry of Labour and National Service		
Other Overhead Charges	..	196	Trainees		
			Administration Grant	..	420
			Stock in hand as at 31st March, 1960	..	68
			Deficit (Transferred to Net Revenue Account)	..	321
		582			
		£1,074			£1,074

AREA CLERKS — NAMES AND ADDRESSES

One of the many duties of the Area Clerks of the Welfare Services Department is that of investigating all applications for admission to residential or temporary accommodation. Many initial enquiries are, however, made to the local County Councillor, and therefore, for the benefit of Members there is set out below a list of the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of Area Clerks and the districts they cover :—

<i>Area and Districts Covered</i>	<i>Area Clerks and Telephone Numbers</i>
ABERDARE	
Aberdare Urban District : Hirwaun, Cwmdare, Trecynon, Llwydcoed, Gadlys, Aberdare, Abernant, Cwmbach, Aberaman, Cwm- aman, Glynhafod, Abercwmboi.	Mr. Ben Evans, County Offices, Llewellyn Street, Trecynon, Aberdare. Aberdare 3018.
Mountain Ash Urban District : Mountain Ash, Perthcelyn, Cefnpennar, Penrhiw- ceiber, Matthewstown, Ynysboeth, Abercynon.	
BRIDGEND	
Maesteg U.D., Bridgend U.D., Porthcawl U.D., Penybont R.D., Ogmore and Garw U.D. except Evanstown, Gilfach Goch Ward.	Mr. R. H. Radcliffe, County Offices, Quarella Road, Bridgend. Bridgend 4056.
CAERPHILLY	
Caerphilly Urban District, Gelligaer Urban District.	Mr. Ben Evans, County Offices, Caerphilly Road, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed 3171-3.
NEATH AND WEST GLAMORGAN	
Port Talbot Borough, Neath Borough, Neath Rural District, Glyncoerrwg Urban District	Mr. D. Harries, D.M.A., 8 Wind Street, Neath. Neath 2241-2.
Gower Rural District, Llchwyr Urban District, Pontardawe Rural District.	
PONTYPRIDD AND RHONDDA	
Pontypridd Area comprises the Pontypridd Urban District and the Llantrisant and Llantwit Fardre Rural District.	Mr. Irwyn Roderick, B.A., County Offices, Court House Street, Pontypridd. Pontypridd 2275-6.
Rhondda area coincides with the administrative area of the Rhondda Borough.	
SOUTH EAST GLAMORGAN	
Cardiff Rural District, Penarth Urban District, Barry Borough, Cowbridge Borough and Cowbridge Rural District.	Mr. R. H. Radcliffe, 20 Park Place, Cardiff. Cardiff 20263.



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